Reviewer’s report

Title: A prospective study on endoscopic ultrasound for the differential diagnosis of serous cystic neoplasms and mucinous cystic neoplasms

Version: 0 Date: 31 Mar 2019

Reviewer: Dimitrios K. Christodoulou

Reviewer's report:

"This is an interesting manuscript proposing criteria for the differential diagnosis of SCNs and MCNs based on the analysis of their EUS imaging features.

However, there several issues that should be addressed, in order for the manuscript to reach its full potential:

1. There are minor syntax and grammatical errors. Consider having the manuscript edited by a native English speaker.

2. "RESULTS". Consider changing "P=0.000" with "P< 0.001".

3. "RESULTS". Did the combination of any two features produce the aforementioned Az value, or were there any feature combinations that performed worse than others? Please comment.

4. "STATISTICAL ANALYSIS". In your statistical analysis add the diagnostic performance of EUS imaging features for MCN's diagnosis and discuss, accordingly.

In addition, add the negative predictive value and positive predictive value in your statistical analysis.

Finally, add the 95% Confidence Intervals for Sensitivity Specificity Positive Predictive Value and Negative Predictive for both the diagnosis of SCN's and MCN's. Please apply all the necessary associated changes in the manuscript text and tables.

5. "DISCUSSION". Please try discussing the results without repeating your findings in the "Discussion" section (after all they are presented in the "Results" section).

6. "Combination of imaging features" One should be very cautious recommending that 2 features can make a diagnosis of SCN, as the two-feature combination produces 80% specificity, practically failing to rule-in the SCN diagnosis in 20% of patients, outcome that is very important, as MCN's have the greatest malignant potential. Please comment.
Recommendation: Major Revision

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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