Reviewer’s report

Title: Indications for adjuvant chemotherapy in patients with AJCC stage IIa T3N0M0 and T1N2M0 gastric cancer—an east and west multicenter study

Version: 0 Date: 29 Jul 2019

Reviewer: Jianxian Lin

Reviewer's report:

Please include all comments for the authors in this box rather than uploading your report as an attachment. Please only upload as attachments annotated versions of manuscripts, graphs, supporting materials or other aspects of your report which cannot be included in a text format.

Please overwrite this text when adding your comments to the authors.

The manuscript BMGE-D-19-00501 "Indications for adjuvant chemotherapy in patients with AJCC (7th ed.) stage IIa T3N0M0 and T1N2M0 gastric cancer -an east and west, multicenter study" analyzed 1593 patients from SEER database and validation using FJUUH and IMIGASTRIC patients. They found that T3N0M0 and T1N2M0 gastric cancer patients should be treated with adjuvant chemotherapy, especially for high-benefit patients. This is an interesting study. In Japanese guideline, the T3N0M0 and T1N2M0 patients were not recommended for AC. So the authors investigated these patients and found the effect of AC in these patients. It is a well written manuscript. There were some minor comments:

1. The 7th and newest 8th edition of AJCC TNM stage system is the same in stage IIa, so in the title, the 7th ed. should be delete.
2. There were several limitation in this study, the authors need to recommend in the discussion.
3. The figure 2 and 3 should change to white blackground.

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:

Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my
report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal