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: 13 Aug 2019

Reviewer: Yanqing Li

Reviewer’s report:

This study used multicenter data from eastern and western datasets to explore that whether T3N0M0 and T1N2M0 gastric cancer patients need AC and what kind of patients will receive a benefit from AC. This is a well-designed study which would provide useful information for doctors and patients. The English expression is excellent. We recommend "Accept after minor essential revisions" for this manuscript. We listed some minor comments below and hope these comments could help to improve this manuscript.

1. This study listed several elimination criteria. It is better to also list the number of patients that were excluded from the analysis of this study for each elimination criterion. These detailed information could help the readers understand the real value of the results and the bias in this retrospective studies.
2. The patients are from very different periods for the three different database (SEER database from January 1988 to December 2012, FMUH from October 2008 to December 2014, Italy IMIGASTRIC Center from January 2000 to December 2014). Could this factor have some influence on the results of this study?
3. In the IMIGASTRIC center data, no significant difference between high-benefit and low-benefit patients was found. Is there any other reason for this except for the sample size?

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

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