Reviewer’s report

Title: A Comparative Analysis of Diffusion-weighted Imaging and Ultrasound in Thyroid Nodules

Version: 0 Date: 09 Aug 2019

Reviewer: Junaid Ahmed

Reviewer's report:

1. In Abstract, under background section, the sentence- 'To evaluate the value of diffusion weighted imaging and ultrasound in differentiating benign and malignant thyroid nodules' - appears to be incomplete.

2. In Abstract, Under background section, the full form of ADC & DWI needs to be written.

3. Grammatical errors in Methods section. For e.g., the sentence- 'Patients take supine position, neck back, shoulders as far as possible droop, told the patient to breathe calmly...' needs to be paraphrased.

4. In Methods, under image analysis section, please write the full form of 'ROI'.

5. In methods, under Image Analysis section, please correct the sentence grammatically and also please maintain spacing- 'Ultrasound examinations was performed by a radiologist with 7 years of experience...'.

6. In methods, under Image Analysis section- what is the full form of 'RADS'? 

7. In Discussion section, in the sentence- 'Previous studies [5] have shown that there is a statistical difference between...' - the studies either have to be quoted or named.

8. In Discussion section, in the sentence- 'Studies [7] showed that the blood flow characteristics of nodules could be used as an important reference..' - The studies have to be named in the Discussion.

9. Spelling mistakes, punctuations and starting the words with Capital letters in the beginning of the sentences needs to be done in the article.

10. Grammatical errors are present throughout the article.

11. It would be desirable if the authors could name the scholars or quote the matter in their respective studies rather than mentioning it as 'some scholars' or 'studies'. It appears very vague.

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.

No

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:

Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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