Reviewer’s report

Title: Correlation of skin rash and overall survival in patients with pancreatic cancer treated with gemcitabine and erlotinib – results from a non-interventional multi-center study

Version: 0 Date: 17 Dec 2019

Reviewer: Meijian Guan

Reviewer's report:

In this study, the authors investigated the association between two ABO SNPs, rs657152 and rs505922, and Cancer/Cardiocerebrovascular disease. Please see the following comments.

1. Please justify why investigating both Cancer and Cardiocerebrovascular disease as they usually don't share pathological mechanisms. Would it be more appropriate if the authors only focus on one disease?

2. Are rs657152 and rs505922 in LD? One limitation of this study is that the authors narrowed down to only two specific SNPs while there might be other SNPs in LD with them that have been reported in other publications. It would be more comprehensive if the authors could get a list of SNPs that in LD with these two and do a literature search to see if there are additional results supporting or against the findings in this study.

3. Under Background section, the paragraph at line 18-21 mentions new studies but lacks supporting citations.

4. In the Discussion section line 16, the author stated following "rs657152 is located in the intron area of ABO, thus it may affect gene transcription and shearing". However, locating in intron doesn't necessary indicate its involvement in gene transcription and shearing. Please provide further evidence such as results of SNP annotation tools to further support this assumption.

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.

No
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