Reviewer’s report

Title: Preoperative serum CA125: A useful marker for surgical management in endometrial cancer

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Reviewer: David OMalley

Reviewer’s report:

This is a well-written paper with a very interesting finding.

MAJOR

Unfortunately after reading the manuscript, I am unsure of the criteria used in the prediction model of CA125. I am unsure if it was recurrence, metastasis or other criteria or all the above.

In addition, I have no idea how many patients were staged with lymph nodes. If all of them did not undergo lymph node staging then the entire model breaks down.

A prospective model was stated however approximately 25% were excluded with the majority of those excluded for “incomplete staging” however what constituted “complete” staging is not described.

The entire conclusion is overstated. At best this is an interesting finding that could be considered in a prediction model:

“In conclusion, preoperative serum CA125 is a good predictor for gynecologic oncologist to determine the surgical management in endometrial cancer. If the value of preoperative serum CA125 was >25 U/ml in patients with clinical stage I, lymphadenectomy should be undertaken. Young patients with endometrial cancer seeking to preserve their ovaries should be advised to remove them if the level of preoperative serum CA125 >30 U/ml, while complete cytoreduction should be recommended if preoperative serum CA125 >45 U/ml.”

Minor:

Line 233-234 “… system, which determined grade 1 or 2 tumors with less than 50% myometrial invasion and no endometrioid cancer as low…” Suspect this is not worded correctly. Need to correct.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable
**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests