Reviewer’s report

Title: Leucopenia and treatment efficacy in advanced nasopharyngeal carcinoma

Version: 3
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Reviewer: Chaosu Hu

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This manuscript try to demonstrate the relationship between Leucopenia and treatment efficacy in advanced nasopharyngeal carcinoma. It may add following items; and it would be better to rewritten in fluent English.

1. For patients with advanced disease, concurrent chemoradiotherapy should be given. Some of the patients didn’t get chemotherapy, could you give us the reason? Such as the poor conditions. It may affect the results.

2. In discussion, the author said that G-CSF may affect the treatment results. Please add the relation between usage of G-CSF and outcome.

3. There were lots of expressions not clear as following:

Methods: We retrospectively analyzed 3826 patients with ANPC who received radiochemotherapy. Patient background characteristics. It should be basic.

Introduction

Nasopharyngeal carcinoma (NPC) is a distinct type of head and neck cancer. Given its unbalanced endemic distribution and pathological and clinical attributes, the incidence rate is high, being 20-30 per 100,000 populations.

In radiotherapeutic techniques may add IMRT

the categories of evidence for induction or adjuvant chemotherapy of NPC has declined. In nccn guideline, induction chemotherapy followed by concurrent chemoradiotherapy is recommend.

We retrospectively collected 3826 newly diagnosed ANPC samples from January 2005 to December 2010 from patients at the Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma Department of Sun Yat-Sen University Cancer Center. Samples should be patients. Treated in Department of Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma.

Informed consent was obtained from all patients, The study was retrospective.

As a retrospective study, it is impossible to get all informed consent in such large number of patients.

examining them with Kaplan–Meier methods and comparing them using the log-rank test examining should be test

Induced chemotherapy- should be induction
patients using paclitaxel were likelier—likely
The overall median OS—omit overall
We performed multivariate analysis to investigate whether leucopenia could be a predictive marker of improved OS and DMFS. Omit the predictive

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.