Reviewer's report

Title: Colorectal cancer liver metastases - a population-based study on incidence, management and survival

Version: 0 Date: 14 May 2017

Reviewer: Stefan Loeb

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The study "Colorectal cancer liver metastases - a population-based study on incidence, management and survival" by J. Engtstrand and colleagues is a well designed population-based study on the metastatic pattern of colorectal liver metastases. Although having been published by different groups in the past, this detailed registra read-out gives some important Information on Tumor biology resp. behaviour which might find it's way in follow-up procedures of patients being resected for this disease.

However, I have to comments on this study:

1. The advantage of a nation-wide data registry on stage IV colorectal disease is the large number of patients being collected for scientific readouts.
   
   What is the reason for analyzing only one year (2008?).

2. Less than 50% of cases have been discussed in multidisciplinary liver teams. Do these patients better resp. worse in outcome or have been treated differently? (tumor-free, overall survival or chemotherpy protocols?) This is in my opinion one of the most important facts that could dramatically change propperative work-up SOPs for patients with colorectal liver metastases.

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
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I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
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Acceptable

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