Reviewer’s report

Title: Long-term outcomes and significance of preoperative lymphocyte-to-monocyte ratio as a prognostic indicator in patients with invasive pancreatic neoplasms after repeat pancreatectomy

Version: 0 Date: 24 Dec 2019

Reviewer: Cosimo Sperti

Reviewer's report:

Authors evaluated the role of preoperative lymphocyte-to-monocyte ratio (LMR) as prognostic factor in patients with recurrent pancreatic cancer in the remnant pancreas after repeat pancreatectomy. They found that LMR was useful to select patients to undergo repeat pancreatectomy for isolated recurrence of pancreatic cancer.

The topic is interesting and repeat pancreatectomy has been advocated by several authors (and by the same authors) in the treatment of recurrent pancreatic cancer, with good results. However, the number of repeat pancreatectomy is relatively low to draw definitive conclusions about the real role of LMR in clinical practice.

Points of discussion:
1- section Methods: repeat pancreatectomy was performed in 29 patients, but 26 out of 28 underwent repeat complete pancreatectomy in this cohort. It is not clear how many patients were included in the study. What means "complete" pancreatectomy?
2- What means local recurrence after repeat pancreatectomy?
3- Authors stated that median cancer specific survival time was 61 months showing favorable outcomes. However, no comparison was made with other populations, i.e not resected patients, patients treated with chemotherapy, etc.
4- Which treatment should be suggested for those patients with isolated pancreatic recurrence and low preoperative LMR?

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.

Unable to assess

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.

Not relevant to this manuscript

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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