Reviewer’s report

Title: Retrospective analysis of the immunogenic effects of intra-arterial locoregional therapies in hepatocellular carcinoma: A rationale for combining selective internal radiation therapy (SIRT) and immunotherapy

Version: 0 Date: 30 Oct 2019

Reviewer: Reviewer 2

Reviewer's report:

PEER REVIEWER ASSESSMENTS:

OBJECTIVE - Full research articles: is there a clear objective that addresses a testable research question(s) (brief or other article types: is there a clear objective)?

Yes - there is a clear objective

DESIGN - Is the current approach (including controls and analysis protocols) appropriate for the objective?

Yes - the approach is appropriate

EXECUTION - Are the experiments and analyses performed with technical rigor to allow confidence in the results?

Yes - experiments and analyses were performed appropriately

STATISTICS - Is the use of statistics in the manuscript appropriate?

Yes - appropriate statistical analyses have been used in the study

INTERPRETATION - Is the current interpretation/discussion of the results reasonable and not overstated?

No - there are major issues

OVERALL MANUSCRIPT POTENTIAL - Is the current version of this work technically sound? If not, can revisions be made to make the work technically sound?

Maybe - with major revisions
PEER REVIEWER COMMENTS:

GENERAL COMMENTS:
As a basic research, the study is interesting regards the idea of investigation, however so far the clinical impact is very very limited
The protocol of the study is well done, and the pathology analysis, even if there is no impact on the results

REQUESTED REVISIONS:

I think that the results of the study are overstated in the discussion and mainly in the conclusion.
This is a basic research only about what can happen in the HCC nodules after preoperative treatment. However there is no correlation with any immunotherapy and the possible effect of SIRT or TACE if far to be understood

ADDITIONAL REQUESTS/SUGGESTIONS:

the language needs to be reviewed

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

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:

Needs some language corrections before being published
Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

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