Reviewer’s report

Title: Comparison of Sequential, Delayed and Simultaneous Resection Strategies for Synchronous Colorectal Liver Metastases

Version: 0 Date: 19 Sep 2019

Reviewer: Nobuhisa Akamatsu

Reviewer's report:

1. Authors should clarify their institutional policy for the treatment selection, sequential resection (SeR), delayed resection (DeR) and simultaneous resection (SiR), with respect to the number or the distribution of CRLM. It is implausible that there was no difference with regard to tumor burden among the groups.

2. How did authors distinguish CRLM cases technically resectable and technically unresectable at the time of first visit? If the study included these as a whole, they should be investigated separately.

3. Please provide the histopathologic information for the cohort.

4. Please present the tumor markers.

5. The complication rate in SiR group was too high. Please demonstrate the kind of complication and the Clavien degree.

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.

No

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:

Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

None

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal