

Review of: "Resectable Pancreatic Cancer With Peritoneal Metastases: Is Cytoreduction Combined With Hipec Effective and When?"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Cytoreduction and HIPEC have shown very limited effectiveness in the treatment of pancreatic cancer; they completely lack robust scientific clinical evidence and are based on very few reports and cases. My main concern about any surgical approach to locally advanced or metastatic pancreatic cancer is that this disease is SYSTEMIC; we need to target drugs and protocols useful to control the systemic disease first. These may include systemic chemotherapy, targeted therapies, or participation in clinical trials exploring novel treatment strategies. Only after that can a surgical approach with local control of the disease be effective.

Furthermore, even if cytoreduction is attempted, the high likelihood of microscopic residual disease remaining in the peritoneum (not to say in the bloodstream) poses a significant risk of disease recurrence. The rate of complication is very high.

I cannot support this approach for metastatic pancreatic cancer.