

# Review of: "Effect of Ethnic Differences on Breast Cancer Presentation and Prognosis in Singapore"

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**Potential competing interests:** No potential competing interests to declare.

The abstract is very general without any numeric data or details.

No reference for the 1<sup>st</sup> sentence in the introduction, like other sentences such as the ethnic Singapore components.

The last introduction paragraph has to be placed in the discussion.

Where are the ASR and mortality of the Others group? What's its composition?

There's a contradiction in the survival and disease-free survival curves; for example, Others have the better OS BUT the worst DFS, the Malays have a poor OS and a better DFS. Any explanation?

What does BRCA 61% in Chinese patients mean? How many patients have mutated BRCA?

The discussion is confused, starting with dietary, without discussing the crude epidemiology data, the most interesting data!!!

Strangely, reference numbers appear in this paragraph: "In Malaysia, among the three ethnic groups, binge drinking was recorded to be highest in the Indians (54%), followed by the Chinese at 39% and the Malays at 8% (25). The Malay women, who are Muslims, do not consume alcohol as it is forbidden in Islam. Some Chinese women consume alcohol on social occasions, and some Indian women in the estates consume illicit alcohol (26). Frequent and higher consumption of alcohol are risk factors for breast cancer, as shown in a study among premenopausal women in Japan (27). Due to the differences in alcohol consumption among the ethnic groups, breast cancer risk and incidence may also differ." This is a matter of discussion. What are the recommendations of the journal?

Most of the data reported only in the discussion has to be reported in the tables of results part.

So, in conclusion, what's the real position of the author and its relation with the SCR?

The paper is unclear in its present structure and has to be modified.