

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

Dilip Vallathol¹

¹ Aster Medcity

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Congratulations to the authors for a well thought out retrospective study

The data presented is well written and presented

However, the data seems to be a bit skewed.

Pancreatic cancer is one of the cancers with a very poor prognosis, especially when diagnosed at Stage 4, even with the advent of newer systemic therapies. It most probably may be related to an unfavorable tumor microenvironment. Even though the authors have shown a probable increase in survival, I would be pragmatic about whether this would actually translate into a clinical benefit or a cost-effective method.

HIPEC has been tried in other malignancies like ovarian and colorectal cancers and shown positive results. But these are cancers with relatively better prognoses and better systemic regimens. Another point is that HIPEC done after a course of neoadjuvant chemotherapy (just like that done for ovarian cancers) might have allowed better patient selection, as we would be able to know the chemo sensitivity and biology of the disease.

Also, I would be interested in knowing the further lines of treatment received by patients who had recurred. Prospective trials are definitely warranted in this space, and I would look forward to the group undertaking the same.