

Review of: "Association between Postoperative Adjuvant Chemotherapy and Disease-Specific Survival in Women with Ovarian Sex Cord-Stromal Tumors: A SEER-based Study"

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Potential competing interests: The author(s) declared that no potential competing interests exist.

The authors have evaluated the role of adjuvant chemotherapy in 323 patients of SCSTs from the SEER database. The role of adjuvant chemotherapy for ovarian SCSTs is not well defined and is controversial. While, little doubt exist about the lack of benefit for adjuvant chemotherapy in early stage disease; the jury is still not out on the role of adjuvant chemotherapy for more advanced disease particularly the non-granulose cell tumor.

1. There are significant imbalance in the group receiving chemotherapy and no chemotherapy like more advanced stage disease, large tumor size, poorly differentiated disease and these could be independently affecting the prognosis of the disease rather than chemotherapy causing death/detriment. The conclusion seems highly biased towards the univariate finding on this issue.
2. Since, cox-regression model did not suggest a detriment in the survival based on the receipt of chemotherapy, it would be more reasonable to conclude that chemotherapy was not causing death in these patients. The authors need to revise the conclusion and the notion that chemotherapy is detrimental based on a retrospective SEER analysis with several missing information as well as confounding variables.
3. The ideal method to evaluate the effect of chemotherapy would be a randomised clinical trial and I agree that such may not be possible for a rare disease like this. Nevertheless, bold conclusions based on data with inherent limitations is unwarranted
4. A major revision is required for the manuscript with corrections as cited above