

Review of: "Effect of neutrophil-to-lymphocyte ratio and vitamin D3 levels on the pathological complete response after neoadjuvant treatment in TNBC and HER2-positive early breast cancer – results of a prospective study"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

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Reviewer comments:

1. This study has examined NLR response to NACT in TNBC and HER2-positive breast cancer patients. Author has taken 96 patients with early stage TNBC (n=51) or HER2-positive (n=45)

Change this to 96 patients with early stage TNBC (n=51) and HER2-positive (n=45), because total constitutes 96 (Line 18-19).

2. Result section, pCR rates were 49% for TNBC and 46.7% for HER2-positive patients. NLR did not correlate with pCR in either subset (line 21-22).

The data needs to be reexamined; TNBC and HER2 positive in total should be 100%?

3. Many studies emphasize that prognosis may be affected not only by the characteristics of the tumor itself, but also by the host response, including the inflammatory response, Reframe it as, Many studies emphasize that prognosis may be affected not only by the characteristics of the tumor, but also by the host response, which includes the inflammatory response.
4. It was demonstrated as early as 10+ years ago that cytokines and chemokines secreted by both tumor and host cells (e.g., leukocytes) can contribute to metastasis. Remove – that
5. Reframe sentence (line 46-49)
6. Write the full form of BC and IBM (line 57-58)
7. To see if the correlations in elderly patients, if any, might be different. Remove if any, might be different (line 70-71)
8. Abbreviations need to be introduced first then you can use the abbreviations in the text.(line 82-101)
9. Regarding the results, please introduce the symbol \pm when the authors cite the mean values followed by SD values. (Table 1,2,3), please standardize tables and text.
10. Table 1,2,3 – values for leukocyte being referred as neutrophil, changes need to be incorporated.

1. In Table 1 and 2, Age, mean (SD) 44.02, author did not mention SD, Please rectify.
2. Reframe line 127-130.
13. In both groups, most subjects were premenopausal (76.5% and 64.4%, respectively). (line 133), better mention the groups since author has mentioned respectively at the end.
14. Change neutrocyte count to neutrophil count (line 169)
15. Other studies.....NLR and OS. Provide relevant references (line no: 203-206).
16. ANC, TCH AND TILs write the full form of the abbreviations.
17. Reference no. 1 year of publication is missing.
18. The study could be interesting but unfortunately in my opinion the results are against the literature available except few. Please mention the limitation of the study and justify your result in the discussion section.
19. My general remarks, most of the values are not significant, based on this it is difficult to conclude the role of NLR in this context.
20. Better to add ROC graph showing cut-off value