

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"

Adekunle Alagbe¹

¹ University of Pittsburgh

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The concept in the paper is good considering the increasing prevalence of breast cancer and the ease of obtaining the NLRs as a derivative of the routinely done complete blood counts.

However, the authors need to improve on this manuscript as it present state will confuse the potential readers.

They can not talk about the effect of NLR an vitamin D3 as though these were therapies. Perhaps they may need to consider 'the effect of measuring or monitring of NLR and D3 levels...' and that has to be in a prospective study. This manuscript does not drive home a cause - effect relationship as it is a cross-sectional study.

Always state the meaning of the abbreviations at first use otherwise readers will be confused.

The abstract should be redone because the authors did not mention vitamin D3 levels. Remember the abstract should be a stand alone, and readers do not need to read the complete article before getting your message.

The methods are poorly done: A propsective study would have been a better option i.e. taking the blood count before chemotherapy and after completing the therapy. They need to state how they derived the NLR.

Statistical analyses were poorly done. They need to consult a medical statistician.

Results are not properly presented.

The discussion need to be redone. It is not convincing as the authors continued to discuss the works by other researchers instead of their own work.

Many other comments are in the pdf.

Thank you for asking me to review this manuscript.