

Peer Review

Review of: "Monitoring Circulating Cell-Free HPV DNA in Metastatic and Recurrent Cervical Cancer: Clinical Importance and Implications for Treatment – A Pilot Study"

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The pilot study by Li et al. gives an in-depth exploration of circulating cell-free HPV DNA (cfHPV-DNA) as a potential biomarker for monitoring metastatic and recurrent cervical cancer. The authors effectively explain the feasibility and sensitivity of digital droplet PCR in detecting HPV16 and HPV18 DNA. The study highlights a strong connection between cfHPV-DNA levels and disease burden. The panel data tracking of treatment response and recurrence adds meaningful clinical value, especially in settings where imaging may be limited. Although the small sample size focuses on only two HPV genotypes, which limits applicability, the study provides important insights. Additionally, standardization of sampling times and broader subtype coverage would enhance clinical applicability. Although this article has some limitations, the study provides an important foundation, especially in non-invasive monitoring, and supports the need for larger, multi-center trials. The findings show the future need for improving personalized care and early intervention in cervical cancer management. Overall, the study is well-conducted and well-researched. It will contribute significantly to the evolving field of liquid biopsy.

The study also emphasizes the feasibility and early clinical utility of cfHPV-DNA using digital droplet PCR, which is timely and aligns with current interests in precision oncology and personalized medicine. Readers interested in innovative diagnostic and monitoring tools will find this article informative and valuable for both clinical and research applications.

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.