



Correspondence

Correspondence to “The role of preoperative serum cancer antigen 125 in malignant ovarian germ cell tumors”



Dear Editor,

We are responding to the article by Ju-Hyun Kim et al. on “The role of preoperative serum cancer antigen 125 in malignant ovarian germ cell tumors” (Volume 57, Issue 2: 236–240; 2018) [1], which addressed research on significant clinical role between cancer antigen 125 and malignant ovarian germ cell tumors patients.

Their research shared new ideas about CA125 and malignant ovarian germ cell tumors patients, which is a heated research topic in recent years. However, we consider some of their statistical analysis not rigorous enough.

First, the statistics that analyze the method of the **LN meta** in Table 1 is wrong. Based on the percentages of the four parts, there was 3 patients who suffered lymph node metastasis with CA125 > 249.5U/mL. Fisher's Exact Test should be suitable instead of Pearson Chi-square Test ($P = 0.644$ is the values of the Pearson Chi-square Test).

Table 1
Univariate analysis of risk factors associated with elevated cancer antigen 125 (CA 125).

| Factors | CA 125 ≤ 249.5 U/mL | CA 125 > 249.5 U/mL | P value |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------|
| LN meta, (n) | | | |
| Negative | 120 | 29 | 0.644 |
| Positive | 9 | 3 | |
| Peritoneal cytology (n) | | | |
| Negative | 107 | 25 | 0.262 |
| Positive | 9 | 5 | |
| Asiotes (n) | | | |
| No | 61 | 6 | 0.003 |
| Yes | 68 | 26 | |
| Ovarian surface invasion | | | |
| No invasion | 90 | 10 | <0.001 |
| Invasion | 39 | 22 | |
| Tumor rupture (n) | | | |
| No | 99 | 11 | <0.001 |
| Yes | 30 | 21 | |
| Age (n) | | | |
| ≤24 years | 68 | 18 | 0.720 |
| >24 years | 61 | 14 | |
| Size | | | |
| ≤15 cm | 69 | 8 | 0.004 |
| >15 cm | 60 | 24 | |
| Stage (n) | | | |
| I | 102 | 13 | <0.001 |
| II | 12 | 7 | |
| III | 5 | 11 | |
| IV | 1 | 1 | |

LN meta, lymph node metastasis.

Second, in the **Peritoneal cytology** analysis in Table 1, the sum of the detailed number was 146, not equal to the total of 161 they claimed. This situation also appeared in **Stage** analysis in Table 1.

Based on literature review, although there were some details need to be modified in Kim's study, CA 125 could play an important role as the predictive factor of malignant ovarian germ cell tumors.

Disclosure of conflict of interest

None.

Reference

- [1] Kim JH, Park JY, Kim JH, Kim YM, Kim YT, Nam JH. The role of preoperative serum cancer antigen 125 in malignant ovarian germ cell tumors. *Taiwan J Obstet Gynecol* 2018;57(2):236–40.

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