OPEN PEER REVIEW

Open Peer Review (OPR)

As a new feature for progressing towards transparency, we decided to open a new window for all of our editors as well as authors titled "**Open Peer Review**". We hope by this new facility, our reviewers will be more motivated and authors will be more satisfied with the review process. We believe that publishing our peer review reports could make a transparent and clear environment for all our efforts within a journal, but not all reviewers tend to publish their comments.

What is "Open Peer Review" process?

An "Open Peer Review" process is making the details of all review process (including reviewers, associate editors, and EICs comments) as "Public" as it is agreed by EIC, Authors, and reviewers.

Advantages of "Open Peer Review" process

- More transparency, constructiveness and tactful comments of the peer review process: leads to an increase in the quality of reviews
- More motivations for all involved roles in the review process
- Authors' satisfactions from the review process: Increases honesty between authors and reviewers
- Education of both authors and new students
- Prevents reviewers from following their individual agendas and leading to the detection of reviewers' conflicts of interests

You can find out more at:
https://sites.kowsarpub.com/kowsar/knowledgebase/category/tree.html#opr.html

International Journal of Cancer Management
Article DOI: 10.5812/ijcm.90249
Published in: International Journal of Cancer Management: 12(5); e90249

Peer Review Report for "Comparison of Matrix Metalloproteinases 2 and 9 Levels in Saliva and Serum of Patients with Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma and Healthy Subjects"

Author(s): Zohreh Dalirsani, Atessa Pakfetrat, Zahra Delavarian, Seyed Isaac Hashemy, Leila Vazifeh Mostaan, Marzieh Abdollahnejad , Azar Fani Pakdel, Elham Banihashemi, Ala Ghazi

Review Timeline:

Submit Date:	4 Feb 2019
Revised Date:	22 Apr 2019
Accepted Date:	24 Apr 2019

Revision (0)

Here, you can see the **Reviewers**, **Associate Editors** and **EICs'** comments from the beginning to the end of the revision process.

REFEREE: Reviewer | **Revision** (0) 13 Mar 2019

Dear AE,
Comments to the author:
1- We are not authorized to use any abbreviation without full description for the first time, both in the abstract and the body : ELISA-ECM-PEX....
2- Please, mention the timing of the essay.
3- What was the sampling method?
4- The sample size formula or calculation was not seen.
5- The ethical considerations (code or number) according to your institute were omitted,also this topic should be removed from end of the essay to the material and methods section.
6- It is better to include conclusion part as the last paragraph of the discussion, not apart of that.
7- The first line of the conclusion should be included the aim or the title of the essay and then the main result(s) of your treatise are written in the second and third lines. If there is any question,comment or hypothesis,then you can declare them as the last paragraph of

the conclusion.

8- DOI & PMID must be added after the each reference.

Thanks.

REFEREE: Associate Editor | **Revision** (0)

14 Mar 2019

Dear EIC,

The manuscript is studied, and there are some comments which should be addressed by the author. According to the comments, the document needs major revision.

Kind regards,

REFEREE: EIC | **Revision** (0)

16 Mar 2019

Dear Author,

Please revise your manuscript according to the reviewer's and associate editor's comments.

Thanks.

OPEN PEER REVIEW

Revision (1)

Reply to Reviewers

Ideally, the reviewing process can significantly improve the submitted manuscripts by allowing the authors to take into account the advice of reviewers. Author(s) must reply to all reviewers' comments in a separate Word file, point by point. A "**Reply to Reviewers**" document is submitted along with revised manuscript during submission of revised files, summarizing the changes that the authors made in response to the reviewers' comments. The responses to reviewers' comments specifies how the authors addressed each comment the reviewers made.

You can read the authors' responses to the reviewers' comments in the next page.

Reviewers' Comments:

We would like to thank the reviewers for their constructive and valuable comments which helped us to improve and carefully revise the manuscript. Below you find our point-by-point response to all the reviewers' comments. Finally, we believe that our manuscript after careful revision is suitable for publication.

1- We are not authorized to use any abbreviation without full description for the first time, both in the abstract and the body: ELISA-ECM-PEX....

We thank the reviewer for this valuable point. In the revised version, we have included the full name when used for the first time in the manuscript (highlighted)

2-Please, mention timing of the essay.

The dates of conducting this investigation have been stated in the method section of the revised manuscript (between October 2014 to June 2015).

3- What was the sampling method?

In this study we used purposive non-probability sampling method, which has been stated in the method section on page 4 (highlighted).

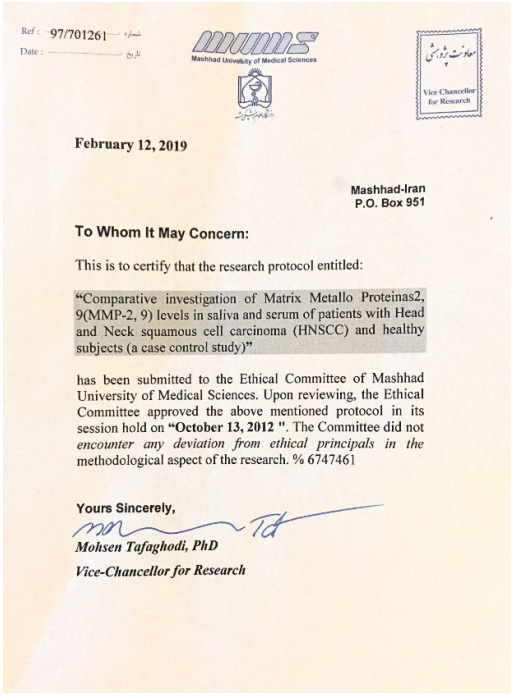
4- The sample size formula or calculation was not seen.

Since the cases of this disease who referred to our department are not common, we were not able to determine the sample size, hence the study was conducted as a pilot study with patients who were enrolled in the course of a year. (In the method section it has been mentioned that this was a pilot study).

5-The ethical considerations (code or number) according to your institute were omitted, also this topic should be removed from end of the essay to the material and methods section.

We thank the reviewer for raising this point; this study had been approved in 2012, when the Ethics Committee of Mashhad University of Medical Sciences was not assigning any code to the protocols. Hence we have attached the certificate of the Ethics Committee of Mashhad University of Medical Sciences as a supplementary file.

Also according to the reviewer's suggestion, the Ethical Considerations has been added in the method section, which is highlighted.



Ref : 97/701261 شماره
Date : تاریخ

Mashhad University of Medical Sciences

معاونت پژوهشی
Vice Chancellor for Research

February 12, 2019

Mashhad-Iran
P.O. Box 951

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to certify that the research protocol entitled:

"Comparative investigation of Matrix Metallo Proteinas2, 9(MMP-2, 9) levels in saliva and serum of patients with Head and Neck squamous cell carcinoma (HNSCC) and healthy subjects (a case control study)"

has been submitted to the Ethical Committee of Mashhad University of Medical Sciences. Upon reviewing, the Ethical Committee approved the above mentioned protocol in its session hold on **"October 13, 2012 "**. The Committee did not *encounter any deviation from ethical principals in the* methodological aspect of the research. % 6747461

Yours Sincerely,

Mohsen Tafaghodi, PhD

Vice-Chancellor for Research

6-It is better to include conclusion part as the last paragraph of the discussion, not apart of that.

As suggested, we included the conclusion as the last paragraph of the discussion.

7-The first line of the conclusion should be included the aim or the title of the essay and then the main result(s) of your treatise are written in the second and third lines.If there is any question, comment or hypothesis, then you can declare them as the last paragraph of the conclusion.

As recommended by the reviewer, the conclusion has been revised and the first line of the conclusion now starts with the aim of the study and comments and suggestion have been stated in the last paragraph of the conclusion.

8-DOI & PMID must be added after the each reference.

According to reviewer's suggestion, DOI & PMID have been added after the each reference in the revised version.

OPEN PEER REVIEW

Revision (1)

Here, you can see the **Reviewers**, **Associate Editors** and **EICs'** comments from the beginning to the end of the revision process.

REFEREE: Reviewer | **Revision** (1) 15 Apr 2019

Dear AE,
The study is reviewed carefully. According to comments and revisions by the author, this manuscript is accepted.
Thanks

REFEREE: Associate Editor | **Revision** (1) 16 Apr 2019

Dear EIC
Based on the authors' answers to the reviewers' comments, the reviewer(s) have recommended publication.
Kind regards.

REFEREE: EIC | **Revision** (1) 22 Apr 2019

Dear Author,
Please add the ORCID id of the manuscript authors in the authors section when submitting the revised manuscript. It is necessary to add the ORCID id of at least the first and corresponding authors, otherwise, we cannot process your manuscript any further. You can get an ORCID id from the ORCID website at https://orcid.org.
Thank you.

OPEN PEER REVIEW

Revision (2)

Reply to Reviewers

Ideally, the reviewing process can significantly improve the submitted manuscripts by allowing the authors to take into account the advice of reviewers. Author(s) must reply to all reviewers' comments in a separate Word file, point by point. A "**Reply to Reviewers**" document is submitted along with revised manuscript during submission of revised files, summarizing the changes that the authors made in response to the reviewers' comments. The responses to reviewers' comments specifies how the authors addressed each comment the reviewers made.

You can read the authors' responses to the reviewers' comments in the next page.

Reviewers' Comments:

Dear Author,
Please add the ORCID id of the manuscript authors in the authors section when submitting the revised manuscript. It is necessary to add the ORCID id of at least the first and corresponding authors, otherwise, we cannot process your manuscript any further. You can get an ORCID id from ORCID website at https://orcid.org. Thank you.

We thanks the reviewer for raising this point, the ORCID id of the authors has been added in the authors section.

Best Regards,

OPEN PEER REVIEW

Revision (2)

Here, you can see the **Reviewers**, **Associate Editors** and **EICs'** comments from the beginning to the end of the revision process.

REFEREE: EIC | **Revision** (2) 24 Apr 2019

Dear Author,
This is my pleasure to announce you that your article has been accepted by the editorial committee after peer review in the International Journal of Cancer Management (IJCM). Hopefully, it will be published in future issues.
Thanks.