

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-56943

Title: Association of Serum Lactate Dehydrogenase with International Staging System and Overall Survival in Newly Diagnosed Multiple Myeloma

Recommendation:

Accept after minor revision.....

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality			✓	
Techn. Quality			✓	
Clarity		✓		
Significance		✓		

Reviewer's ID: JPR-198

Detailed Reviewer's Report

This manuscript investigates the association between serum LDH, ISS staging, and overall survival in multiple myeloma. Topic is clinically relevant, study question is valid and data appears real-world and useful. However the study design and statistical rigor are limited and methodological clarity is incomplete in parts.

Major Comments

1. Study Design is described as cross-sectional, but includes 5-year survival follow-up. So this should be either retrospective cohort or cross-sectional study. Authors must clarify because survival analysis requires cohort design.
2. Correlation is not the correct primary method for survival data.
3. No adjustment for age, treatment variations, renal function and disease burden. This limits validity of conclusions.
4. Ethics approval needs to be stated with proper Approval number
5. Good attempt to exclude confounders (e.g., hemolysis, MI) but authors should mention how these exclusions were verified (clinical records? lab screening?)