

Peer Review File

Article Information: <https://dx.doi.org/10.21037/med-23-44>

Reviewer A

This review article was well-written and very informative.

Response: Thank you for your kind comments

Reviewer B

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to reviewing the manuscript “Surgical treatment of thymic epithelial tumors”.

This manuscript was well-written.

However, there are some checks and corrections are needed.

- 1, Please describe the references about “1. Introduction Line 3-4; until recently, there were considered to be benign lesions.”
- 2, Please use Abbreviation correctly in the entire text.
- 3, Is the sentence correct? About line 269 20+-40 min.
- 4, Please check the sentence about Line310. It is not contraindication of MIST about stageIII.

Response: Thank you for your kind and constructive comments. Concerning the points raised:

- 1: A reference is added
- 2: The manuscript is modified accordingly
- 3: The phrase is corrected
- 4: The phrase is removed

Reviewer C

This is a very useful review article that comprehensively and structurally describes a wide range of treatment options regarding surgical treatment other than perioperative treatment for thymic epithelial tumors, which are rare and difficult to conduct prospective studies because they require long-term follow-up. Thank you for your efforts in preparing this valuable paper.

p.6, line 2; This study uses the Masaoka classification, not the Masaoka-Koga classification

Response: Thank you for your kind and constructive comments. Concerning the points raised:

-The phrase is modified accordingly

Reviewer D

I carefully read and appreciated your manuscript entitled "Surgical treatment of thymic epithelial tumors".

The article provides an extensive literature review on the chosen topic, it is well written and pleasant to read. The rarity of TETs and the lack of prospective randomized studies that could add significant information on their management are actual limitations that are well described in the article.

I have only few comments:

- 1) Lines 267 and 272: the right reference is n° 43, not n° 42.
- 2) Line 269: the mean operative time reported for trans-subxiphoid RATS thymectomy in the cited article is 204 minutes, not 20 minutes.
- 3) The role of surgical debulking for locally-advanced thymomas management is well debated in this article: doi:10.1016/j.lungcan.2023.107214 , which I suggest to include in the text (lines 401-405)

Response: Thank you for your kind comments. Concerning the points raised:

1)The references are modified accordingly

2)Indeed, the operative time is modified accordingly

3)We are aware of this paper, however, as the authors state in their discussion “our series focused on preoperatively apparently resectable tumors that ended in incomplete resection and not on debulking of unresectable thymomas”, so we do not think that it refers to intentional debulking with a cytoreductive intent. That is why we preferred not to include it in the section about (intentional) debulking.

Reviewer E

In this manuscript the Authors provide a through description of the surgical treatment of thymic epithelial tumors. Intraoperative images could be added to improve the quality of the manuscript.

Response: Thank you for your kind comments

Three photos have been added