

# INPLASY PROTOCOL

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**Conflicts of interest:**  
None.

## INTRODUCTION

**Review question / Objective:** Considerable studies have proved that pretreatment Systemic Immune-inflammation Index (SII) is a prognostic biomarker in gastric cancer (GC), while the results are unclear. We conducted this meta-analysis to identify

## Prognostic Significance of Pretreatment Systemic Immune-Inflammation Index in Gastric Cancer: A Meta-Analysis

Sun, X<sup>1</sup>; Wen, H<sup>2</sup>; Zhan, B<sup>3</sup>; Yang, P<sup>4</sup>.

**Review question / Objective:** Considerable studies have proved that pretreatment Systemic Immune-inflammation Index (SII) is a prognostic biomarker in gastric cancer (GC), while the results are unclear. We conducted this meta-analysis to identify the prognostic significance of SII for GC patients.

**Condition being studied:** According to global cancer statistics, gastric cancer (GC) is predicted to be the fifth most commonly diagnosed cancer and the third dominant cause of cancer-related mortality in the world, with more than 1,000,000 new cases and 780,000 deaths annually. Despite the progress of the diagnosis, staging and treatment of the disease, 5-year overall survival (OS) does not significantly increase in the past two decades, remaining below 30%. Therefore, the identification of new prognostic biomarkers is considered important to predict treatment response or long-term survival for gastric cancer patients.

**INPLASY registration number:** This protocol was registered with the International Platform of Registered Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis Protocols (INPLASY) on 22 December 2020 and was last updated on 22 December 2020 (registration number INPLASY2020120110).

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cases and 780,000 deaths annually. Despite the progress of the diagnosis, staging and treatment of the disease, 5-year overall survival (OS) does not significantly increase in the past two decades, remaining below 30%. Therefore, the identification of new prognostic biomarkers is considered important to predict treatment response or long-term survival for gastric cancer patients.

## METHODS

**Participant or population:** Patients with gastric cancer diagnosed through histopathology will be included.

**Intervention:** High systemic immune-inflammation index (SII) was the main intervention.

**Comparator:** The patients with decreased SII were controls.

**Study designs to be included:** Retrospective cohort study will be included.

**Eligibility criteria:** 1: Included patients with GC diagnosed through histopathology. 2: Reported hazard ratio (HR) and 95% confidence intervals (CI) for overall survival (OS) or disease-free survival (DFS) or recurrence-free survival (RFS), or included sufficient data to calculate HR and 95% CI. 3: Published in English.

**Information sources:** PubMed, Embase and the Cochrane Library databases.

**Main outcome(s):** The pooled hazard ratios (HRs) with 95% confidence intervals (CIs) were calculated to evaluate the association of SII with overall survival (OS).

**Quality assessment / Risk of bias analysis:** The quality of studies was assessed based on the Newcastle–Ottawa Quality Assessment Scale (NOS). The potential publication bias was evaluated by Begg's test, Egger's test and funnel plot.

**Strategy of data synthesis:** The Cochrane Q test and I<sup>2</sup> statistic were used to assess

the heterogeneity of the pooled results. It was considered that our results have not been affected by heterogeneity if I<sup>2</sup> < 10. In this case, a fixed-effects model was used to calculate the pooled estimates. Otherwise, a random-effects model was applied.

**Subgroup analysis:** According to histopathologic type, treatment methods, cancer stage, sample size and SII cut-off value, further subgroup analysis was also conducted.

**Sensitivity analysis:** By sequentially excluding each study, a sensitivity analysis was carried out to assess the influence of each individual study on the pooled results.

**Country(ies) involved:** China.

**Keywords:** gastric cancer; SII; meta-analysis; prognosis.

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