INPLASY

Prognostic and clinicopathological value of fibrinogen-to-albumin ratio (FAR) in colorectal cancer: a meta-analysis

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ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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Review Stage at time of this submission - Completed but not published.

Conflicts of interest - None declared.

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Amendments - This protocol was registered with the International Platform of Registered Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis Protocols (INPLASY) on 8 March 2025 and was last updated on 8 March 2025.

INTRODUCTION

Review question / Objective FAR is widely investigated for its role in predicting prognosis of colorectal cancer (CRC) patients, whereas no consistent findings are obtained. Consequently, this meta-analysis focused on examining FAR's prognostic role in CRC.

Condition being studied Colorectal cancer.

METHODS

Participant or population Patients with CRC.

Intervention Studies that examined relation between FAR and clinical results in CRC cases.

Comparator CRC patients with normal levels of FAR.

Study designs to be included Cohort studies, including prospective and retrospective cohorts.

Eligibility criteria Inclusion criteria were presented as following: (1) pathological diagnosis of CRC; (2) studies that examined relation between FAR and clinical results in CRC cases; (3) studies that had extractable or computable hazard ratios (HRs) as well as 95% confidence intervals (CIs); (4) available FAR threshold; and (5) English studies.

Information sources PubMed, Web of Science, Cochrane Library and Embase databases were searched until July 11, 2024.

Main outcome(s) OS and PFS.

Quality assessment / Risk of bias analysis NOS was employed for evaluating included study quality. Funnel plots, Begg's test, and Egger's test were conducted to analyze publication bias.

Strategy of data synthesis This work computed pooled HRs and 95%CIs to predict FAR's value for forecasting OS and PFS in CRC. Inter-study heterogeneities were assessed through based on Cochran's Q-test and I2 statistics. P 50% indicate obvious heterogeneities and the random-effects model is used; or else, a fixed-effects model must be applied.

Subgroup analysis Subgroup analyses were conducted for investigation on the impact of various factors.

Sensitivity analysis Sensitivity analysis was conducted.

Language restriction English.

Country(ies) involved China.

Keywords fibrinogen-to-albumin ratio; colorectal cancer; biomarker; evidence-based medicine; prognosis.

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