Comments to the Authors,

Dr. Wang and colleagues provided an important combination analysis to the preoperative CEA and CA19-9 and the prognosis outcomes in patients with resectable pancreatic adenocarcinoma in a quite large Chinese cohort. The result is a quite important validation to the joint effect of CEA and CA19-9 and the result is quite encouraging. I only have several slight concerns:

1, As the authors claimed “Log-rank test of binary discretized levels confirmed that 100U/ml of CA19-9 and 10 μg/ml of CEA were the best cut-off points to predict PDAC prognosis (p<0.0001)”. How to determine the cut-off 100 and 10? Not 101 U/ml or 99 U/ml? Please give more details on how to determine the cut-off values.

2, In the statistic and result section, authors should provide more explicit description on the result with adjustment on which confounders, every result without the adjustment on confounders doesn’t make any sense, therefore, the authors don’t need to show any non-adjusted values in the manuscript and also the manuscript could be more concise.

3, The manuscript is too tedious, since the idea and the function for this study is quite explicit, please check the manuscript again and again, make the manuscript as concise as possible.

4, Since the authors didn’t provide the validation with another independent data, please check your conclusion with 2-fold or 5-fold cross-validation and make sure the cut-off and the result is stable.