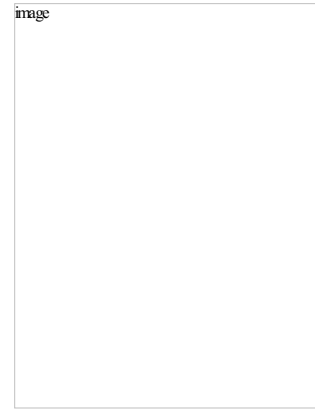


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# The significant prognostic value of circulating tumor cells in colorectal cancer: a systematic review and meta-analysis

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## Abstract

### Background

Circulating tumor cell (CTC) is a promising candidate biomarker for detection, monitoring and survival prediction of colorectal cancer (CRC). However, the prognostic significance of CTCs in CRC is currently under debate. Here, we performed a meta-analysis to assess the prognostic value of CTC for patients diagnosed with CRC.

### Methods

A comprehensive literature research had been performed in the Pubmed, Embase Databases, Cochrane Library, Elsevier Science Direct and China National Knowledge Internet for studies reporting prognostic data of CTCs in CRC patients since December 2016. The main outcome measures were overall survival (OS) and progression-free survival (PFS).

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