INNOVAPATH™
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Reviewer's Guidance

Please provide concise, evidence-based feedback. Use scores only if instructed; narrative comments are required**.** To make your review maximally helpful, address the items below as applicable:

- Summary & Key Claims:
  - In 2–3 sentences, restate what the authors did and claim. Note any over-interpretation.
- Significance & Novelty:
  - Does the work advance knowledge or clinical practice? Briefly compare to the best recent literature.
- Methods & Statistics:
  - Are the design, sampling, endpoints, and analyses appropriate and reproducible?
  - Comment on power, multiple comparisons, model assumptions, and handling of missing data.
- Results & Interpretation:
  - Are outcomes clearly presented (tables/figures complete, units/labels correct)?
  - Do conclusions follow from the data? Flag alternative explanations.
- Ethics & Compliance:
  - Human/animal approvals and consent stated? Trial registration where required?
  - Data privacy is handled appropriately.
- Data, Code & Materials:
  - Is there a data-availability statement? Are datasets/code shared or justifiably restricted? Note anything essential that's missing.
- Rigor & Transparency:
  - For clinical/observational studies, note adherence to reporting checklists (e.g., CONSORT, STROBE, PRISMA).
  - For AI/ML work: dataset description, train/validation split, external validation, performance metrics with confidence intervals, failure analysis.
- Clarity & Organization:
  - Is the manuscript logically structured and readable? Identify sections needing condensation or clarification.
  - Point out specific line/figure numbers for edits (e.g., "L142–156: clarify cohort flow").
- Limitations:
  - List the most important limitations and suggest precise ways to acknowledge or mitigate them.

- Specific, Actionable Recommendations:
  - Provide a short, numbered list of concrete changes needed for acceptance (e.g., "Add sensitivity analysis excluding X", "Provide raw Ct thresholds in Supplement", "Correct Fig. 2 axes").
- Conflicts & Confidentiality:
  - Do not share or reuse manuscript content; disclose any potential conflicts to the editor in the confidential box.
- Plagiarism/Text Eeuse:
  - Uncited or poorly cited copying; "salami" duplication from the authors' prior work; translated or re-ordered text; re-used figures/tables without permission.
- AI-generated Text/Figures (e.g., ChatGPT, Image Generators):
  - Inconsistent tone, generic phrasing, fabricated or non-resolving references/DOIs, mismatched citations, or images with artifacts.
- Data/Citation Integrity**:**
  - References that don't support claims, made-up trials, or statistical outputs that don't reconcile with methods.
  - Flag concerns in your review and cite exact lines/figures. The Editorial Office will run plagiarism checks and follow up.

Recommendation

☐ Accept

☐ Minor Revision

☐ Major Revision

☐ Reject

Confidential Comments to the Editor (not shared with authors):

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