



December 3, 2014

Dear Editor,

Thanks a lot for your dealing with our manuscript and prompt response. The comments from you and the reviewers are really helpful for the improvement of our manuscript. We have prepared a revision strictly according to the comments and the alterations have been highlighted in the revised manuscript (red color). Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 14070-review.doc). This manuscript has been edited and proofread by Medjaden Bioscience Limited.

Title: EUS-guided deep and large biopsy for diagnosis of gastric infiltrating tumors with negative malignant endoscopy biopsies

Author: Xin Xin Zhou, Ali Usman, Feng Ji, Xi Jin, Wei Xiang Zhong, Hong Tan Chen

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 14070

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:
1 Format has been updated

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

(1) As suggested by the reviewer, the exact findings that we are referring in the figure have been marked with arrows.

(2) Considering the reviewer's suggestion, the paper in endoscopy by Tae HJ et al describing Biopsy v ESD has been added in the References section.

(3) In our study, the choice of EMR or bite-on-bite technique was based on the endoscopic results. If the lesion protruded into the cavity, EMR was performed for removal of the overlying mucosa and then bite-on-bite biopsies were conducted in the resected area to obtain submucosal tissue. If the lesion appeared to be flat or was difficult to lift by injection, the bite-on-bite technique was directly used. For this reason, we did not separately comment on the values. In order to make clear, the different choices between 'EMR combined with bite-on-bite biopsies' and 'bite-on-bite biopsies' have been added both in the Methods and Abstract section.

(4) As the reviewer mentioned, the term EMR for treating gastric cancers, the indications of EMR are usually restricted to a non-ulcerated, differentiated-type mucosal cancer < 2 cm, w/o lymph node metastasis. In our study, we introduced new application of the EMR technique for **diagnosis** of gastric infiltrating tumors. EMR was performed for removal of

the overlying mucosa and then bite-on-bite biopsies were conducted in the resected area to obtain submucosal tissue. The paper in endoscopy by Cantor MJ et al (ref 11)describing similar technology for diagnosis of submucosal lesions.

(5) As suggested by the reviewer, we have shown the precise definition and procedures of bite-on-bite technique including information of used forceps in the Methods section.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

Finally, we request to add **Hang-Hai Pan** who took part in the manuscript revision as the seventh author. we are not sure if the change is allowed by the Journal.

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*. If you have any enquiry, please kindly contact me immediately.

Sincerely yours,



Feng Ji, MD, PhD,

Department of Gastroenterology

the First Affiliated Hospital, College of Medicine, Zhejiang University,

No. 79 Qingchun Road

Hangzhou, Zhejiang 310003, China.

Tel: +86-571-87236568

Fax: +86-571-87236611

Email: jifeng_1126@126.com