

## Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS

May 18, 2014

Dear Editor,



Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 17207 Revised WJG.docx).

**Title:** Clinical applications of 5-aminolevulinic acid-mediated fluorescence for gastric cancer

**Author:** Tsutomu Namikawa, Tomoaki Yatabe, Keiji Inoue, Taro Shuin, Kazuhiro Hanazaki

**Name of Journal:** *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 17207

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) Responses to Reviewer #2841861

1. We deleted some references including reference 19.
2. According to your suggestion, Figure 1 was changed to demonstrate clear image.

(2) Responses to Reviewer #1438833

1. As you mentioned, we took out minor detail to focus on diagnostic aspect.
2. We deleted some references as your suggestion.
3. As you mentioned, meta-analysis could be better to understand for the readers. To minimize bias of retrospective study, various statistical analyses are applied such as multivariate analysis or calculation of effect size. Unfortunately, it is too small sample size to assess usefulness of 5-aminolevulinic acid-mediated fluorescence for gastric cancer using multivariate analysis. In near future, we would like to try reliable assessment using meta-analysis, as your suggestion.
4. In this article, we focused on clinical applications of ALA mediated fluorescence for gastric cancer; however, we described other as your mention.

(3) Responses to Reviewer #2536796

1. Thank you for your detailed comments and suggestions.
2. We added the sentences to present results of studies reported in the previous literature correctly according to your suggestion.

(4) Responses to Reviewer #1799430

1. Thank you for your mention. We revise the sentence according to your suggestion.
2. We added figures which shows peritoneal metastasis with ALA-induced red fluorescence, while it was not detected under white lite.
3. Thank you for your careful check. We revised references which are already published formally.

(5) Responses to Reviewer #68458

1. As you suggested, it is an important issue that there are a difference of ALA-induced red

fluorescence between intestinal- and diffuse-type gastric cancer. The oligopeptide transporters (PEPT) and ATP-binding cassette transporter G (ABCG) are reportedly involved in the cellular uptake of ALA. Therefore, distribution of biomarkers including PEPT and ABCG that depends on histological type might underlie the observed differences in ALA-PDD positivity among gastric cancers. These speculations are described in 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph in PDD for gastric cancer heading.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

4 We added a language certificate from one of the professional English language editing companies.

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tsutomu Namikawa".

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