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Dear editor and reviewers,

Thank you for your kind and valuable comments on our article. We have revised the text in accordance with the feedback provided. The details of our revisions are listed below. These revisions are highlighted in red within the updated version of the manuscript.

1. The optimum number of cycles for neoadjuvant chemotherapy has not been established and the result of the COMPASS-D trial may contribute information about suitable regimes and numbers of courses. We discussed the COMPASS-D trial in "Optimal chemotherapy regime for gastric cancer with ELM", but have added a description about the number of cycles to clarify the current status of this issue (page 8, line 17).
2. The time required to recover from chemo-toxicity has also not yet been established. We have added some discussion of this issue in the last part of "Optimal chemotherapy regime for gastric cancer with ELM" (page 8, line 24).
3. Quantifying the disease stage to estimate potential benefits from neoadjuvant chemotherapy is challenging, given the limited number of gastric cancer patients with ELM. We have added a description of the stratified analysis of neoadjuvant therapy by Tsuburaya et al. (page 8, line 5), although this may fall short of what the reviewer requested.
4. All uses of "et al." in the text have been italicized, as requested.

We feel that the comments provided have allowed us to improve the paper, and hope you can convey our gratitude to the reviewers.

Yours sincerely,

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