

August 31, 2015

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format(file name: Revised text 21876.doc).

Title: Evaluation of Epithelial-Mesenchymal Transitioned Circulating Tumor Cells in Patients with Resectable Gastric Cancer: Relevance to Therapy Response

Authors: Ting-Ting Li, Hao Liu, Feng-Ping Li, Yan-Feng Hu, Ting-Yu Mou, Tian Lin, Jiang Yu, Lei Zheng, Guo-Xin Li

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 21876

The manuscript has been improved in accordance with the suggestions of the reviewers. The revised parts of the manuscript have been underlined.

1 The format has been updated.

2 The first author has made an audio file describing the final core tip.

3 References and typesetting were corrected.

4 Revisions have been made in accordance with the suggestions of the reviewers point by point.

We would like to thank reviewers 00182276 and 03270404 for their valuable comments.

Response to reviewer 03270404:

(1) Dear Author, I appreciated the paper, I would recommend to anticipate in the results section, the type of radical gastrectomy (D1? , D2 ?), in the following section it seems to be D2.

>>>>Response from authors: Thank you for your valuable comments. A total of 44 patients were enrolled in this study. Thirty-seven patients underwent laparoscopic gastrectomy with D2 lymphadenectomy, the remaining 7 patients with unresectable tumors were treated with laparoscopic exploration or palliative surgery.

(2) I would even recommend to review some sentence : The findings suggest the EMT phenomenon both in rare cells within primary tumors and

abundantly in CTCs from gastric cancer, which might be used to monitor therapy response. and Three patients responded to therapy showed a decrease in CTC counts and...

>>>>Response from authors: The sentences you mentioned have been rephrased according to your comments and language in the revised version has been polished by the native speaker from a USA based editing company [American Journal Experts (AJE) <https://www.aje.com/en>]

Response to reviewer 00182276:

1. In such a case it is very important to define lymphadenectomy. Was it D1 or D2? Language should be polished. following minor revision is a valuable article.

>>>>Response from authors: Thank you for your valuable comments. (1) A total of 44 patients were enrolled in this study. Thirty-seven patients underwent laparoscopic gastrectomy with lymphadenectomy, the remaining 7 patients with unresectable tumors were treated with laparoscopic exploration or palliative surgery. (2) The language in the revised manuscript has been polished by a USA based professional editing company [American Journal Experts (AJE) <https://www.aje.com/en>]

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

Sincerely yours,

Guoxin Li, MD, PhD, FRCS

Department of General Surgery, Nanfang Hospital, Southern Medical University, 1838 North Guangzhou Avenue, 510515 Guangzhou, China

E-mail: gzliguoxin@163.com

Tel: +86-20-61641681 Fax: +86-20-62787626