

Answers to comments of the reviewers.

Dear editor and reviewers.

Thank you for your sharp remarks and precise recommendations.

We prepared point by point answers to your comments, and also amended manuscript accordingly.

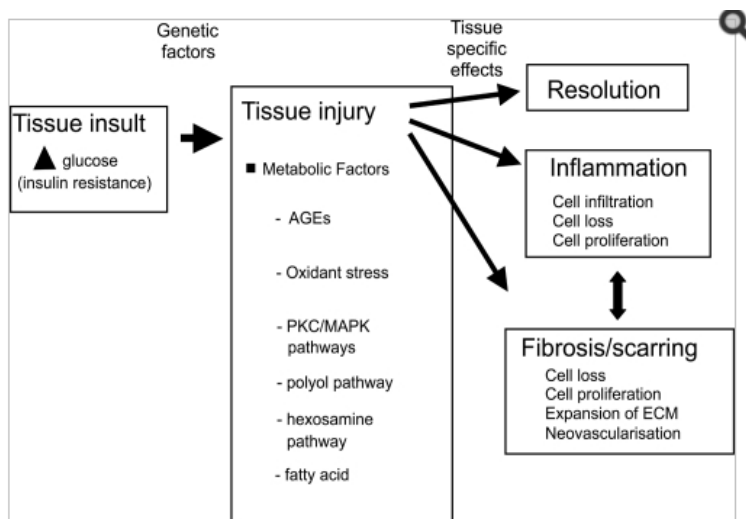
Sincerely,

Reviewer's comments

In this study authors aimed to investigate histologic abnormalities in the gastric smooth muscle of patients with DM and showed that DM patients have excessive amounts of fibrosis on their gastric smooth muscles which may contribute to changes in gastric motor activity in patients with DM. They used histologic and staining techniques to identify the proposed changes of tissue samples. Since most of the published findings have been obtained from animal research, using human tissues makes this study distinguished and important. However there are several concerns about the study that may need to be addressed.

1) The findings of this study are remains to be phenomenological, since authors didn't provide any mechanism which may be responsible for these changes. At least they can discuss the likely mechanism of this increase in fibrosis.

→ Thank you for your kind comment. Actually, fibrosis is known as main pathologic abnormalities in various organs such as vessels, retina, kidney, in chronic complications of DM. I think that the main mechanism of gastric muscular fibrosis in this study is not differ from those in other organs. Because we cannot know the accurate mechanism of the gastric muscular fibrosis with this study, we added this point to the limitations in discussion part.



2) Can you present the blood glucose levels of diabetic and non-diabetic patients?

→ Thanks again for your accurate point. We checked the glucose level the day before surgery as routine lab in fasting state. Due to the fasting, the glucose level was normal in all the patients. In fact, this spot glucose level has no value in this study, we didn't describe this result in the contents. Checking the serial glucose levels seems to be valuable. We added this point to the limitations in discussion part.