

## ANSWERING REVIEWERS



Jun 24, 2013

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 3465-review.doc).

**Title:** Lymph node metastasis in gastric cardiac adenocarcinoma in male patients

**Author:** Gang Ren, Yingwei Chen, Rong Cai , Wenjie Zhang, Xiangru Wu, Yening Jin

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

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 3465

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) Title of the manuscript needs checking. "....A comparative analysis of with female patients...." does not make sense.

Title of the manuscript has been changed. Such changes may make the reader less ambiguous. The original title is *Lymph node metastasis in gastric cardiac adenocarcinoma in male patients: A comparative analysis of with female patients*. Now the title is *Lymph node metastasis in gastric cardiac adenocarcinoma in male patients*.

(2) It is somewhat unfortunate that, despite a long observational period (>10 yrs), the sample size remains small (n=146). As rightly highlighted, a future attempt in expanding the population size should hopefully provide further insights. It would be worth mentioning how you anticipate this could be achieved?

In fact, gastric cardiac adenocarcinoma patients in two hospital are far more than 146 cases in the manuscript in the 10-year period. According to Japanese classification of gastric carcinoma: 3rd English edition, although it is not a prerequisite, the examination of 16 or more regional lymph nodes is recommended for N status determination. Therefore, the patients with lymph node less than 15 were not included in the study. Since Japanese classification of gastric carcinoma: 3rd English edition is widely used, surgeons in gastric cardiac adenocarcinoma surgery have now cleared more lymph nodes, lymph node dissection number in most patients is greater than 15, So cases available for study have rapidly increased.

(3) the authors should further illustrated the purpose and significance of this study, as well as told reader the differences of this paper compared with others previous studies.

a. the purpose of this study is to reveal the clinicopathologic features and risk factors for lymph node metastases in gastric cardiac adenocarcinoma of male patients

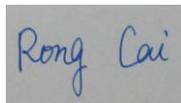
b. the significance of this study is that tumor differentiation and tumor depth were risk factors for lymph node metastases in male patients with gastric cardiac adenocarcinoma and should be considered when choosing surgery, and it has a strong practicability in clinical practice.

c. We used PubMed using the following search terms “gastric cardiac adenocarcinoma and Lymph node ” listed on or before March 28th 2013. A total of 78 papers were identified and their titles and abstracts reviewed for relevance. Among them only no more than 10 papers really involved gastric cardiac adenocarcinoma and lymph and node metastasis since 1980 to 2013 . The main differences of our paper compared with others previous studies are the following: ① most of previous studies are concerned with Westerners, and our study population is Chinese. ② the standard of lymph node dissection in the previous studies is not uniform, and we are in accordance with the Japanese classification of gastric carcinoma: 3rd English edition , lymph node dissection number in each patient is not less than 15. ③ the patients in our paper are real gastric cardiac adenocarcinoma patients, and the patients of gastroesophageal junction cancer and lower esophageal cancer are included in the previous studies.④ in addition to reveal the clinicopathologic features and risk factors for lymph node metastases in gastric cardiac adenocarcinoma of male patients , we also focus on comparing the differences of lymph node metastasis between male and female patients , and it rarely seen in other previous studies. ⑤ we focus on revealing the clinicopathologic features and risk factors for lymph node metastases in gastric cardiac adenocarcinoma of male patients , and they mainly study surgical approach and prognosis of gastric cardiac adenocarcinoma patients in most of the others previous studies. ⑥ Correlation between lymph node metastases at pN1, pN2 and pN3 and clinicopathological factors are also deeply studied in our paper, and this have not been studied in the previous studies.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

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

Sincerely yours,

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rong Cai".

Rong Cai, MD  
Department of Radiochemotherapy  
Rui Jin Hospital  
Shanghai Jiaotong University Medical School  
197 Ruijin Er Road,  
Shanghai, 200025 P.R. China  
Phone: 86-21-6437-0045  
FAX: 86-21-6437-0875  
E-mail: cairong619@yahoo.com.cn