

Dr. Atilla Ertan, FACP, AGAF, MACG
Professor and Medical Director
Ertan Gastroenterology Center of Excellence



July 14, 2013

World Journal of Gastroenterology
Editorial Department: Room 903, Building D
Ocean International Center, No. 62 Dongsihuan Zhonglu
Chaoyang District, Beijing 100025, China

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 3651-PDT versus RFA for Barrett's dysplasia.doc).

Title: Photodynamic therapy versus radiofrequency ablation for Barrett's dysplasia: efficacy, safety and cost-comparison

Authors: Atilla Ertan, MD, Irum Zaheer, MD, Arlene M. Correa, PhD, Nirav Thosani, MD, MHA, Shanda H. Blackmon, MD

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 3651

We thank the Editor and the Reviewers for the constructive comments on our manuscript. The manuscript has been improved according to suggestions of the reviewers:

A. Format:

Manuscript format has been updated according to policy of the World Journal of Gastroenterology. New "Comment" section has been added in the manuscript.



B. Manuscript:

- a. Statistical methods has been added in the abstract **(Page 3, Lines 11-13)**
- b. The study design is been changed from prospective evaluation of data to “retrospective evaluation of prospective collected database” as per reviewer’s suggestion. **(Page 6, Lines 4-6)**
- c. We now discuss in detail the patient selection process for endoscopic ablation therapy versus surgery. All HGD patients underwent surgical consultation and based on age, performance status and co-morbidities were either ineligible for surgery or were offered surgery and refused after multidisciplinary meeting with gastroenterologist and surgeon regarding the risk and benefits related to endoscopic therapy and surgery. **(Page 6, lines 10-13)**
- d. We have now added range of follow up period in addition to average length of follow up, as per reviewer’s suggestion. **(Page 8, lines 24,25)**
- e. We have added time to development and diagnosis of esophageal cancer after PFT therapy. **(Page 9, Line 5)**
- f. In the discussion, we have now added role of endoscopic resection techniques like EMR and ESD per reviewer’s suggestion. **(Page 10, Lines 2-13)**
- g. We have again highlighted that our analysis in cost comparision analysis taking into account only direct cost. We have also mentioned that detail cost effectiveness analysis needs to account for both direct and indirect costs related to specific intervention. **(Page 11, Lines 15-19)**
- h. We have specified the limitations of the study per the reviewer’s suggestion. **(Page 11, Lines 26,27 and Page 12, Lines 1-5)**

- i. As per reviewer's suggestion, we have modified our conclusion and highlighted strong need to do multicenter randomized study comparing radio frequency ablation versus photodynamic therapy. **(Page 12, Lines 7-11)**

C. References

References have been updated as per the World Journal of Gastroenterology's requirement.

Thank you for your consideration of this publication. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions and/or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Atilla". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Atilla Ertan, M.D., F.A.C.P., A.G.A.F, M.A.C.G