

April 30, 2019

Editors-in-Chief

Bing Hu

Anastasios Koulaouzidis

Sang Chul Lee

World Journal of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy

Dear Dr Hu, Dr Koulaouzidis, and Dr Lee

Re: "Endoscopic characteristics of small intestinal malignant tumors observed by balloon-assisted enteroscopy" . (No. 47540)

Thank you for inviting our manuscript to the World Journal of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy.

(This manuscript is transferred from WJG to WJGE as recommended by Dr Lian-Sheng Ma.)

We are most grateful to you and the reviewers for the helpful comments on the original version of our manuscript. As indicated in the responses that follow, we have taken all these comments and suggestions into account in the revised version of our paper.

**Reviewers' comments to the author:**

**Reviewer #1:**

**1. Several errors should be corrected.**

Reply

Several errors are appropriately corrected as review' s comment.

**2. From literature review & clinical experience, most small bowel GISTs present as bleeding or pain; in your Table1, most of them (5/6) present as others, what are the symptoms?**

Reply

Most of our GIST cases had no symptom. Most of GIST were accidentally detected by PET, or fecal occult blood test without symptom.

3. From your results, “infiltrative ulcerated type” is unique for Group 1 and not seen in lymphoma group, since this is one of your key findings, please provide typical picture for this lesion(3) another key point is that, in lymphoma group, when the intact epithelium was ulcerated or lymphoma cells were present in the deep mucosa, white villi could not be seen, please provide typical endoscopic & pathological pictures for this lesion

Reply

Figure 2A is replaced as reviewer’ s comment. New Figure 4 is created in the manuscript.

**Reviewer #2:**

1. The first being, how is this a study? And why are there p values when comparing different groups? The second being, again, the statistical analysis comparing location of these lesions - the same principle applies. The third being, the very low sample size to have any meaningful statistical differences.

Reply

We compared endoscopic characteristics of three different groups. Statistical analyses were performed using the Fisher’ s exact test for percentages and one way ANOVA to assess differences in parameters showing a normal distribution. Non- normally distributed data were analyzed using the Kruskal-Wallis test. These methods are described in “Statistical analysis” paragraph. As the reviewer’ s comment, our study has several limitations. These are described in Discussion, page 10 line 9.

We hope that the revised version of our paper is now suitable for the publication in the World Journal of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy and we look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

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We look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely,

Naoki Hosoe, MD, PhD