

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 5625-revisedManuscript.doc).

Title: Evaluation of preferable insertion routes for esophagogastroduodenoscopy using ultrathin endoscopes

Author: Satoshi Ono, Keiko Niimi, Mitsuhiro Fujishiro, Yu Takahashi, Yoshiki Sakaguchi, Chiemi Nakayama, Chihiro Minatsuki, Rie Matsuda, Itsuko Hirayama-Asada, Yosuke Tsuji, Satoshi Mochizuki, Shinya Kodashima, Nobutake Yamamichi, Atsuko Ozeki, Lumine Matsumoto, Yumiko Ohike, Tsutomu Yamazaki, Kazuhiko Koike.

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 5625

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1. Format has been updated.

Tables and figures are attached as separated files. However, these files could not be embedded as editable format in the manuscript. The title was revised to less than 12 words. In addition, the revised manuscript has a total of 26 references.

2. Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

(1) Language polishing by professional English language editing company is necessary.

We have had our manuscript polished by a professional English editing company before submitting the revised version of the manuscript. The revised manuscript is submitted with a certificate.

(2) Why did authors use several types of scopes?

In this retrospective study, several types of ultrathin endoscopes were used to evaluate the preferable insertion routes in our daily clinical practice.

(3) Why have the majority of the procedures been done with a single endoscopist?

As mentioned above, because this study is a retrospective analysis in our daily clinical practice, majority of the procedures was performed by a single endoscopist. However, in our institute, almost all EGDs during medical checkup are performed by two endoscopists (Operators a and b). As kindly pointed out by the reviewer, it cannot be denied that it affected the results. However, we have included that all endoscopists in this study are well-trained endoscopists who are certified by the Japanese Gastroenterological Endoscopy Society in the revised manuscript. Therefore, bias by operators is thought to be minimized.

(4) The scoring system should be well explained and a sample of questions should be added to the article.

Visual analog scale is a very simple psychometric response scale consisting of a single question. We have added more description and references about this.

(5) The minimum age of patients is not known in the manuscript.

As the reviewer pointed out, the age range was missing. We have added the range of age group in our revised manuscript.

(6) The process of selecting the route of endoscopy should be disclosed well including suggestions and descriptions by staffs to the patients before the procedure.

We have made no suggestions or descriptions on the route of insertion. All decisions were made by patients themselves.

- (7) Based on what part of the study result you recommend transnasal route for young cases?

We suggest that the transnasal route is recommended for younger cases because it is minimally invasive as reported by various institutes. However transoral route is recommended for elderly males.

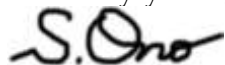
- (8) Considering the point that you aimed to compare the comfort and discomfort in two different route of insertion why you omitted some patients with nasal pain.

We excluded such patients because their pain is caused only by passing the endoscope through the nasal cavity.

3. References and typesetting were corrected

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

Sincerely yours,



Satoshi Ono, MD, PhD
Center for Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine,
Graduate School of Medicine,
The University of Tokyo,
7-3-1 Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo, 113-8655, Japan
Email: satoshi-tky@umin.ac.jp
Telephone: +81-3-3815-5411 Fax: +81-3-5800-8806