

ANSWERING REVIEWERS

December 15, 2013

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 5992-Review.doc).

Title: Role of Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy for Hepatocellular Carcinoma

Author: Naoko Sanuki, Atsuya Takeda, and Etsuo Kunieda

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 5992

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

1) Response to the reviewer 00070056

From the comments by reviewer 00070056:the manuscript is poorly written, such as "is" should be "are" in the second paragraph in the "Epidemiology" section. The authors need overview the manuscript carefully to decrease the errors. The manuscript needs minor revision before it is accepted for publication in the journal.

→The manuscript had undergone a proofreading process by a native speaker by a English language editing company (JAM Post, Seattle, WA, <http://www.jamp.com/en/>). According to the reviewer's comment on language errors, we sent the manuscript to the English proofreader again and inquired whether some grammar correction was needed in the concerned sentence.

Here is the answer from the English editor below:

The editor carefully reviewed the edited version again and made the following comments.

Regarding this sentence: "The broad spectrum of HCC epidemiology and treatments is expected to affect prognosis." I indeed thought that "treatments" was part of the spectrum. "Spectrum" is a singular word ("spectra" is the plural) so requires a singular verb ("is"). How many items the spectrum refers to does not affect the conjugation of the verb. Just as "A basket of oranges and apples was given to the girl" - one would not say "A basket of oranges and apples were given to the girl," since there is only one basket. In this case, there is only one spectrum; thus, "is" is correct.

The editor doesn't think that there are grammar problems. The reviewer may be satisfied with further changes but it would require changing the author's style and voice, or making changes that aren't really necessary but are made to satisfy the reviewer.

We agree with the proofreader and do not wish to change the sentence because it would change the meaning.

2) Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer 01435993.

From the comments by reviewer 01435993:3. There are a lot of abbreviations in the article. Abbreviation list could help people to read the article. 4. It is not clear whether those figures are generated from their own study or cited from other publications. If it is from their own study, do they have some kind of ethics approval procedure?

→An abbreviation list was added at the end of the text in the manuscript.

Figures are generated our own study which received an IRB approval in our institution. In addition, we always obtain an

informed consent from all patients. A sentence mentioning that was added as acknowledgements at the end of the text.

- 3) Some items in Table 3-4 were amended to delete some superfluous data.
- 4) We attach a certificate of proofreading by an English language editing company (JAM Post, Seattle, WA, <http://www.jamp.com/en/>).

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

Sincerely yours,

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