

April 19, 2021

Dear editor,

Please find attached files of revised manuscript in word format

**Title:** The combination of NGAL and MMP9 are promising biomarkers for the early detection of tubular adenocarcinoma of the colon

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**Name of Journal:** *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology*

**Manuscript NO:** 63349

First of all, thank you for your careful guidance of this article. Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer:

**Reviewer: 02953109**

This is a very interesting study about the NGAL and MMP9 in the detection of tubular adenocarcinoma of the colon. The manuscript requires a minor editing before acceptance.

**Reviewer: 02953994**

Colorectal cancers are caused by numerous factors, which are associated with heritability, lifestyle, chronic inflammation, etc. The early diagnosis of colorectal adenocarcinoma is obviously important in the treatment of primary or recurrent colorectal adenocarcinoma. Neutrophil gelatinase-associated lipocalin and MMP-9 could be used as diagnostic and prognostic biomarkers in various cancers. The increased expression of neutrophil gelatinase-associated lipocalin contributed to the progression of cancers, and in a lot of malignancies, neutrophil gelatinase-associated lipocalin was over-expressed. MMP-9 can degrade the extracellular matrix. The utilities in tubular adenocarcinoma of the colon remain unknown. In this study, the authors evaluated the potential of neutrophil gelatinase-associated lipocalin and MMP-9 as biomarkers for the early detection of tubular adenocarcinoma of the colon. And also, the authors explored the possible application of combining these two biomarkers. This study is overall well designed, and the results are very interesting. The manuscript is well written, and it's acceptable after a minor editing. Comments: 1. Some minor language polishing should be corrected. Such as, the "Colorectal cancer" is repeated at beginning of the introduction. 2. Please describe the P value standard of significant difference at the statistical

analysis section. 3 The references should be edited.  
Thank you for your advice.

After receiving the comments, we read this article carefully, found some small loopholes in the language of the article, and describe the P value standard of significant difference at the statistical analysis section and the references is re-edited.

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology

Sincerely Yours,  
Junhua Yuan