

May 20, 2021

Professors Monjur Ahmed, Rosa M Jimenez Rodriguez and Pashtoon Murtaza Kasi  
Editors-in-Chief, *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology*  
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Re: # 64635 "Lateral pelvic lymph node metastasis in rectal cancer: A review of diagnosis and management" ID (05449877) by Shimpei Ogawa, Michio Itabashi, Yuji Inoue, Takeshi Ohki, Yoshiko Bamba, Kurodo Koshino, Ryosuke Nakagawa, Kimitaka Tani, Hisako Aihara, Hiroka Kondo, Shigeki Yamaguchi and Masakazu Yamamoto

Dear Profs. Ahmed, Rodriguez and Kasi,

Thank you for sending the review of the above-referenced manuscript. We are grateful to the reviewers for the critical comments and useful suggestions that have helped us to improve our paper. As indicated in the responses that follow, we have taken all these comments and suggestions into account in the revised version.

Our detailed responses are as indicated on the attached pages. We hope that our explanations and revisions are satisfactory and that the revised version of that manuscript will be suitable for publication in *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology*. We look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely,

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A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shimpei Ogawa". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid, with the first and last names clearly distinguishable.

## Responses to the Reviewer

The article is a review about LPLN diagnostic methods to plan the best colorectal cancer treatment. It clearly establishes the best treatment in all possible circumstances for this cancer, depending on the results of the MRI. The article includes an extensive review of recent work on colorectal cancer. Some spelling errors have been detected (for example, severer instead of more severe). The descriptions in the text are somewhat long and sometimes difficult to understand. Summarizing the text and including explanatory tables to show the results will benefit understanding of the text.

Response: Thank you for pointing out Spell's mistakes. We asked Filipodia Publishing, LLC, which recommended us, to check and calibrate the spell. I have submitted a proofread paper. In order to summarize the contents and make it easier to understand, we have newly added Table 1 which summarizes the report on LPLN metastasis diagnosis by MRI. For this reason, the original Table 1 has been changed to Table 2 and Table 2 has been changed to Table 3.