

Dear Prof. Subrata Ghosh, Prof. Lian-Sheng Ma, and World Journal of Gastroenterology editors,

We greatly appreciate your review of our manuscript entitled, "**Prognostic factors of minimally invasive surgery for gastric cancer: Does robotic gastrectomy bring oncological benefit?**" (No. 66994). We have carefully reviewed the comments of your reviewers and editors and have made modifications to our manuscript that are viewable as highlighted sections in the revised submission. We hope you agree that these modifications are sufficient to allow re-consideration of our manuscript for acceptance in the World Journal of Gastroenterology. We are happy to provide any additional information that may be helpful or address any further questions at your request. Thank you for the opportunity to re-submit.

Specific comments to each reviewer are detailed below;

**Reviewer: 1**

**Comments to the Author**

<b>Scientific</b>	<b>Quality: Grade</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>(Excellent)</b>
<b>Language</b>	<b>Quality: Grade</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>(Priority publishing)</b>
<b>Conclusion: Accept</b>		<b>(High</b>	<b>priority)</b>

**Specific Comments to Authors: Excelent article from all points of view. An article with very good language editing, extensive statistical analysis, with a good potential impact in the field. The article follows the standard structure of reporting; the abstract is structured, introduction offers the background for the study, materials and methods are exceptionally described, and the rest of the sections follow the rigour. The conclusions and drawbacks of the study are adequately presented. The authors have performed a single center retrospective analysis on 814 patients who benefitted from laparoscopic and robotic surgery. The authors analyzed 5 year overall survival, recurrence free survival and factors associated with survival. The results of the study show that age, ASA >3, type of surgery, T4 stage, positive lymph nodes are independent predictors for overall survival and recurrence free survival. The results also conclude that robotic gastrectomy is an independent positive factor for recurrence free survival in patients with stage II or III gastric cancer and that robotic gastrectomy has less morbidity.**

We greatly appreciate the reviewer #1 for the positive words.

## EDITORIAL OFFICE'S COMMENTS

**(1) *Science editor:*** 1 Scientific quality: The manuscript describes a Retrospective Cohort Study of the Prognostic factors of minimally invasive surgery for gastric cancer. The topic is within the scope of the WJG. (1) Classification: Grade A; (2) Summary of the Peer-Review Report: The article follows the standard structure of reporting; the abstract is structured, introduction offers the background for the study. The questions raised by the reviewers should be answered; (3) Format: There are 5 tables and 3 figures; (4) References: A total of 32 references are cited, including 6 references published in the last 3 years; (5) Self-cited references: There are 6 self-cited references. The self-referencing rates should be less than 10%. Please keep the reasonable self-citations (i.e. those that are most closely related to the topic of the manuscript) and remove all other improper self-citations. If the authors fail to address the critical issue of self-citation, the editing process of this manuscript will be terminated. 2 Language evaluation: Classification: Grade A. A language editing certificate issued by AJE was provided. The manuscript is reviewed by a native English speaker. 3 Academic norms and rules: The authors provided the Biostatistics Review Certificate, the Institutional Review Board Approval Form and Written informed consent was waived. No academic misconduct was found in the Bing search. 4 Supplementary comments: This is an invited manuscript. No financial support was obtained for the study. The topic has not previously been published in the WJG. 5 Issues raised: (1) The authors did not provide original pictures. Please provide the original figure documents. Please prepare and arrange the figures using PowerPoint to ensure that all graphs or arrows or text portions can be reprocessed by the editor; (2) The "Article Highlights" section is missing. Please add the "Article Highlights" section at the end of the main text; (3) The authors need to fill out the STROBE checklist with page numbers. 6 Recommendation: Conditional acceptance.

We thank you for the comments. We have amended the self-cited references according to the comment.

The original figures with PowerPoint files, table files, and STROBE checklist are added.

**(2) *Company editor-in-chief:*** I have reviewed the Peer-Review Report, full text of the manuscript, and the relevant ethics documents, all of which have met the basic publishing requirements of the World Journal of Gastroenterology, and the manuscript is conditionally accepted. I have sent the manuscript to the author(s) for its revision according to the Peer-Review Report, Editorial Office's comments and the Criteria for Manuscript Revision by Authors.

We thank you very much for the positive comments.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this manuscript for publication, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

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