



School of Medicine  
University of Missouri-Columbia

**Jamal A. Ibdah, MD, PhD**  
*Professor of Medicine/Gastroenterology*  
*Professor of Medical Pharmacology and Physiology*  
*Raymond E. and Vaona H. Peck Chair in Cancer Research*  
*Director, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology*

Five Hospital Drive  
DC043.00, CE405  
Columbia, MO 65212

PHONE: (573) 882-7349  
FAX: (573) 884-4595  
EMAIL: ibdahj@health.missouri.edu

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 6746-revised.doc).

**Title: Gastric Cancer in Africa: Current Management and Outcomes**

**Authors:** Akwi W Asombang, Rubayat Rahman, Jamal A Ibdah

**Name of Journal:** *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 6746

The manuscript has been revised according to the suggestions of reviewers.

1. Format has been updated as per revision policies.
2. (2) Revisions have been made according to the suggestions of the reviewers as follows:
  - a. Reviewer 02367954Comment:

Asombang et al present an overview of gastric cancer in Africa. Scarcity of information in this field fully justifies this study. The MS is comprehensive and well written. There are, however, several issues that deserve correction or clarification: - References should be carefully reviewed: in the last paragraph of the Introduction, please check adequacy of references 8-9. It seems also that reference 10 should be quoted after the sentence about Kenya and not after the assertion about change of incidences in Uganda. -In Table 1, the incidence and mortality rates for different areas in Africa show that these rates are higher in females than in males, which is incorrect (it seems these data were incorrectly inserted in Table 1 and should be corrected). - In Table 2, the format of the references should be harmonized. Examples of different formats: Fali, B et al; AYete AE et al; lack of the initial letter of given name and "et al" in the last reference (Johanson). Also in this Table, references for several countries (from Tunisia to Ethiopia are misquoted). - Authors may want to change "...gastric cancer in African patients are younger..." to "...African patients with gastric cancer are younger...".

Authours' response: Thank you for your recommendations. We have edited the references, text and tables accordingly.

Reviewer 02441382 Comment:

Description of name of countries in Asia, North America, South America and Europe. In conclusion, Is there increasing trend of non-communicable diseases such as obesity, hypertension and cardiovascular diseases which impact both risk of the disease and management in Africa?

Authours' response: Thank you for your suggestion. We have included the description of names of countries in Asia, North America, South America and Europe. Yes, there is an increasing trend of NCDs such as obesity, hypertension and cardiovascular disease which impacts both the risk of the disease and the management in Africa. We have added a statement to clarify.

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

Sincerely yours,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jamal A. Ibdah', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jamal A. Ibdah, MD, PhD