

March 7, 2014

Dear Editor,



Please find enclosed the revised manuscript in Word format (attached file: 7138-review final).

Title: Use of Blood-based Biomarkers for Early Diagnosis and Surveillance of Colorectal Cancer

Authors: Ganepola A. P. Ganepola, Joel Nizin, John R. Rutledge, and David H. Chang

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 7138

We are pleased that both reviewers (reviewer ID 00724342 and 00742509) offered no criticism about the writing and contents. They both recommended priority publication of this manuscript.

Minor revision has been made for the following purposes:

1. The format has been updated in the "abbreviation list" and "key words" sections to comply with the Format for review.
2. Clarification of some potentially confusing points. Please note that these changes do not alter the overall contents, nor do they change the overall summary and conclusion.
 - (1) Main text, in "ColonSentry as CRC screening or risk-assessment test?" section for clarification.
 - (2) Main text, toward the end of "MicroRNA as blood-based cancer markers" section to minimize potential confusion.
 - (3) Main text, toward the end of "Identification of blood-based protein markers" section for clarification.
 - (4) Main text, in "Summary and future application consideration" section for clarification.
 - (5) Table 2, deletion of potentially confusing remarks in the "Note" column.
 - (6) Minor word changes and polishing throughout the manuscript for typos and aesthetic purposes.
3. Updating the references to include the most current and relevant research (reference #75).

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

Sincerely yours,

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