

Thank you for reviewing our manuscript and giving us the opportunity to revise it. We have revised it according to your request. The replies to all questions are as follows. Please review them. Thank you.

1. What was the rationale of this time (January 2017 to January 2019) period for this study?

Reply: Prognostic analysis was required in this study, so certain follow-up time data were required in this study. So we chose January 2017 to January 2019.

2. It was a single-arm study with no control group for comparison, and thus selection bias could not be ruled out?

Reply: Although this study was a single-arm study with no control group for comparison, strict inclusion and exclusion criteria were established.

3. I also suggest that the authors review their references, as many of them are outdated. Since the topic is widely discussed, there are certainly more recent references.

Reply: Although some of the references in the manuscript are outdated, they belong to the classical literature and have certain reference value. In this study, we have added recently published articles that are closely related to this study.

4. What are the limitations of the study and its findings?

Reply: This study has some limitations. First, this was a single-center, small-sample retrospective study. Second, several other inflammatory markers correlated with prognosis were not included. We have already mentioned these limitations in the manuscript.

5. What are the future directions of the topic described in this manuscript? What are the questions/issues that remain to be solved? What are the questions that this study prompts for the authors to do next?

Reply: The future directions of the topic described in this manuscript is to investigate the significance of the hemoglobin to albumin ratio (HAR) in evaluating the long-term survival of gastric cancer (GC) patients after D2 radical resection. This study suggests that preoperative nutritional status of gastric cancer patients was related to postoperative survival of gastric cancer patients. We will further investigate HAR in assessing the long-term survival of GC patients after D2 radical resection.

6. How might this publication impact basic science and/or clinical practice?

Reply: This is the first study to apply HAR to predict the prognosis of GC patients with D2 radical resection and to construct a short-term survival prognostic nomogram for GC patients, thus providing a reference for the development of postoperative individualized treatment and follow-up plans.