

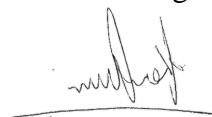
Prof Lian-Sheng Ma  
Editorial Office Director  
Editor-in-Chief  
World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology  
6<sup>th</sup> June 2022  
Dear Professor Ma,

**Re: Statistics declaration for the study: To scope or not – The challenges of managing patients with positive fecal occult blood test after a recent colonoscopy [Manuscript No: 75013]**

Thank you for reviewing our study which reported on the prevalence of advanced colorectal neoplasia and colorectal cancer in patients with a positive iFOBT, after having a recent colonoscopy.

I have extensive experience in using statistical methods with SPSS. I can verify and confirm that the statistical methods used for this study were appropriate and accurate, using IBM SPSS statistics (version 22) including chi-squared test, the Mann-Whitney U test and binary logistic regression. As the reporting of the results in this observational study was mostly descriptive, the statistical methods used were relatively straightforward and the results were consistent with current literature, we did not to employ a biostatistician. We hope that this will not be a barrier to being considered for publication in your esteemed journal. Please contact me if you have any queries. Thank you.

With kind regards,



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