

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS



January 25, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 2429-review.doc).

Title: Prognostic significance of SUVmax and serum CA19-9 in pancreatic cancer patients

Author: Jianguo Zhao, Ya Hu, Quan Liao, Zheyu Niu, Yupei Zhao

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 8320

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format has been updated

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

(1) Thanks for your advices very much. This manuscript has been checked and edited by Jing-Yun Ma Editorial Office. Serum glucose level below 160 mg/dL was ensured. 12 patients were diabetics. Post-surgical FDG was seldomly performed. In our study, we obtained the consent from patients through followed and clinic service. Because only 59 patients was performed R0 surgical resection, the lymph node status of rest patients was not confirmed.

(2) Corresponding changes have been added in Results and Discussion parts according to the following 4 groups: SUVmax high/CA19-9 high, SUVmax high/CA19-9 low, SUVmax low/CA19-9 high, and SUVmax low/CA19-9 low. Table 1 has been deleted. We has added more analytic points in the discussion. The format of manuscript has been edited by Jing-Yun Ma Editorial Office.

(3) The graphs show that SUVmax and CA19-9 was correlated with the survival of the patient, bur the only significant factor was the tumour stage on multivariate analysis. We think that this results may be caused by small patients sanmple. In addition, cut-off level for the SUV max and CA19-9 was added to suggest a clinically useful parameter.

(4) The cite about table 2 has been erased in abstract. Billirubin levels affected the level of CA19-9, unfortunately the data about bilirubin was incomplete. In this study, all patients was operated but only 59 patients was performed R0 surgical ressectiion. We added that the low SUV in undifferentiated cancer near to 0 in discussion. Reference has been markered by numbers

3 References and typesetting were corrected

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

Sincerely yours,

Quan Liao, MD

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Quan Liao'.