

**Response to the Reviewers' comments for the systematic review entitled "Comparison between upfront surgery and neoadjuvant chemotherapy in patients with locally advanced gastric cancer: a systematic review." [Manuscript NO 85373]**

Reviewer #1:

1. Minor language polishing is required, such as "r0 resection rates" in Date exaction, "english language" in Table 1.
2. When you investigate the effets of NAT on the overall survival (OS), the disease-free survival (DFS) of patients with LAGC in comparison to upfront surgery, the clinicopathologic features, NAT and adjuvant chemotherapy regimens of the two groups of patients should be balanced.

Response:

1. Thank you for your comments. Language polishing has been performed and the revised manuscript has been resubmitted.
2. The clinicopathologic features and chemotherapy regimens between groups were matched in the individual cohort studies and were not statistically significantly different. Then the matching data were included in our review.

Reviewer #2: No specific comments

Response:

Thank you kindly for your review.

Editor-in-Chief Comment:

Before final acceptance, when revising the manuscript, the author must supplement and improve the highlights of the latest cutting-edge research results, thereby further improving the content of the manuscript. To this end, authors are advised to apply a new tool, the Reference Citation Analysis (RCA). RCA is an artificial intelligence technology-based open multidisciplinary citation analysis database. In it, upon

obtaining search results from the keywords entered by the author, "Impact Index Per Article" under "Ranked by" should be selected to find the latest highlight articles, which can then be used to further improve an article under preparation/peer-review/revision.

Response:

Dear editor-in-chief, thank you for your comments. We used the following search terms on the Reference Citation Analysis (RCA) database

"Locally advanced gastric cancer and neoadjuvant chemotherapy" - no results

"Locally advanced gastric cancer neoadjuvant chemotherapy" - no results

"Locally advanced gastric cancer perioperative chemotherapy" - no results

"Locally advanced gastric cancer and perioperative chemotherapy" - no results

"Locally advanced gastric cancer" - 598 results

Refined by year published (2013-2023) 463 results

Refined "article type" including "journal article", "research-article", "multicenter study", "randomized controlled trial", "Observational Study", "Clinical Trial, Phase II", "Clinical Trial, Phase III", "Clinical Trial, Phase I", "Clinical Trial", "Comparative study", "prospective study" - 160 results

After obtaining 160 results we selected the "Impact Index Per Article" under "Ranked by" and we screened the titles and some ababstracts in order to find the latest highlight articles to further improve our article.

There were no new articles that matched our inclusion criteria and that could further improve our article.