

Major consideration:

1. The introduction that explains the differences and connections between endoscopic submucosal resection and endoscopic intermuscular dissection in terms of principles, techniques, and effects are needed in the introduction or discussion section: **I have added this in the introduction and it is highlighted in yellow in the revised manuscript text.**
2. The discussion did not mention the follow-up plan and evaluation indicators of patients after receiving long-course chemoradiotherapy, as well as possible complications and countermeasures: **I have added this information in the further follow up section before discussion and highlighted in yellow.**
3. A puzzling question is whether the patient, who showed high grade dysplasia on his two biopsies, had other evidence suggesting an invasive cancer for which radical surgery was indicated?: **Both the endoscopic appearances and MRI showed evidence of invasive disease. However, biopsies only showed high grade dysplasia only probably due to sampling error. This information is provided in case presentation section of the manuscript.**
4. Figure 3, the necessary indicator arrows are needed. It is better if there can be a partially enlarged image. A schematic would be nice: **We have highlighted the deep and peripheral margins with the help of an arrow and labelled different layers of the rectal wall to show invasion of the cancer in muscularis propria.**

Minor points: Paper polishing is required. I can't enumerate all the mistakes, just to give a few examples. Please check the format of the full text.

1. The line numbers are missing and I can't even pinpoint where the mistake is.: **I have added line numbers to the manuscript**
2. The typeface throughout the manuscript is confusing, as if it were a substandard college assignment: **I have corrected this.**
3. Introduction section, paragraph 2, "More recent data however suggests that the depth of SM invasion is not an independent risk factor of lymph node metastasis (LNM) in T1 colorectal cancer". In this sentence, "however" should be placed at the beginning or end of the sentence and separated by commas open: **I have corrected this.**
4. Discussion section, paragraph 1, "It is a new technique where dissection is carried out of the inner circular muscle layer in the intermuscular plane keeping the outer longitudinal layer in the rectum intact." A "while" before keeping would be better. **I have corrected this.**
5. Discussion section, paragraph 1, "This study included 207 non-curative ESD and showed the tumour recurrence and disease specific survival rates were similar in patients who had

radical surgery vs those who were followed up with endoscopy after a median follow-up of 30 months". "non-curative ESD" should be changed to "non-curative ESD cases", "followed up with endoscopy" should be changed to "followed up by endoscopy". **I have corrected this.**