

June 10, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: Yeo et al 14-6-10.doc).

Title: Risk Factors and Natural History of Breast Cancer in Younger Chinese Women

Authors (typed): Winnie Yeo, Hang-Mei Lee, Amy Chan, Emily YY Chan, Miranda CM Chan, Keeng-Wai Chan, Sharon WW Chan, Foon-Yiu Cheung, Polly SY Cheung, Peter HK Choi, Josette SY Chor, William WL Foo, Wing-Hong Kwan, Stephen CK Law, Lawrence PK Li, Janice WH Tsang, Yuk Tung, Lorna LS Wong, Ting-Ting Wong, Chun-Chung Yau, Tsz-Kok Yau, Benny CY Zee, on behalf of the Hong Kong Breast Cancer Foundation.

Name of Journal: World Journal of Clinical Oncology

ESPS Manuscript No: 10587

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- minor revision on grammatical errors has been performed according to the advice by one reviewer.

3. Reviewer 1 has the following comments: "The manuscript is clear and well written. Based on the current database, is there any significant correlation/interactions between different parameters if authors perform further statistic analyses(different regression analysis) instead of arbitrary dividing patients into two groups?"

We have analyzed the data using age as continuous variable instead of using a cutoff at age 40 in order to address this issue. The results are similar to that in the manuscript using a dichotomous age variable except that using a continuous age variable has more significant findings and it is more sensitive. We believe using the age cutoff is easier to explain the effect than a continuous variable. We would, therefore, opt to leave the manuscript.

4. References and typesetting were corrected.

Based on the reviewers' comments and grading of the language evaluation (both being Grade A), the authors would like to guarantee that the language of our manuscript has met the requirement and we would like to choose not to have our manuscript edited by the English language editing companies.

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

Yours sincerely,

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