

## ANSWERING REVIEWERS



May 9, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the revised manuscript in Word format (file name: 10628-review.doc).

**Title:** Totally laparoscopic gastrectomy for gastric cancer: A systematic review and meta-analysis of outcomes compared with open surgery

**Authors:** Ke Chen, Yu-Pan, Jia-Qin Cai, Xiao-Wu Xu, Di-Wu, Yi-Ping Mou

**Name of Journal:** *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

**ESPS Manuscript No:** 10628

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

**1 Format has been updated.**

**2 Revisions have been made according to the suggestions of the reviewers**

Comments from Reviewer 1: This is a thorough analysis of safety and effectiveness of totally laparoscopic gastrectomy for gastric cancer. However, it needs English editing before it can be accepted and/or published.

Answer from the authors: We have had the paper polished in English by a native English speaker.

Comments from Reviewer 2: This manuscript is interesting. However, there are some problems in this article. (1) I could not find Figures 2-9 in this manuscript using my personal computer. Is this system error? Figures 2-9 were indicated as black box. (2) Authors should indicate the mean value of the operative time, blood loss etc. in Table 4.

Answer from the authors: The Figure problems may be caused by the computer system. We have checked all the Figures and made them accessible technically. In this meta-analysis, continuous variables were assessed using weighted mean difference (WMD), which is calculated from means and standard deviations (SD) in the included

studies. We have added this value into Tables 3 and 4.

**3 References and typesetting were corrected.**

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

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light blue background. The signature reads "Yiping Mou" in a cursive style.

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