

I, Haruhiro Inoue, M.D., Ph.D., certify the following statement with regard to the manuscript "Phalanusitthepha C *et al.*, Endoscopic features of early-stage signet-ring-cell carcinoma of the stomach."

Conflict-of-interest: Dr. Inoue has received fees for serving as an advisory committee member for Olympus Corporation, Tokyo, Japan. The other authors have no conflicts of interest or financial ties to disclose.

Signed,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Haruhiro Inoue, MD", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Haruhiro Inoue, M.D., Ph.D.