

14th January 2015

Professor George Hanna PhD FRCS MErgS
Head of Division of Surgery

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 15940-Edited.doc).

Title: Point-of-care testing in the diagnosis of gastrointestinal cancers: Current technology and future directions

Authors: Jeremy R Huddy, Melody Z Ni, Sheraz R Markar, George B Hanna

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 15940

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

- (1) **Reviewer:** "The reviewed literature seems to be outdated. DNA methylation, which is an important aspect, was omitted. In fact, Cologuard, a combination of mutation and methylation marker, was recently approved by the FDA as a stool-DNA-based diagnosis for colorectal cancer (1.Thomas F. Imperiale, David F. Ransohoff, Steven H. Itzkowitz, Theodore R. Levin, Philip Lavin, Graham P. Lidgard, David A. Ahlquist, Barry M. Berger. Multitarget Stool DNA Testing for Colorectal-Cancer Screening. New England Journal of Medicine, 2014; 140319083230003 DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1311194). The authors should include a section to review the related literature (e. g. Vimentin DNA methylation)."

Revision: Cologuard, although not currently a point-of-care test, does have feasibility for point-of-care translation. Therefore, a section on DNA methylation and Cologuard has been added to the review (pages 16-17).

3 References and typesetting were corrected

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

Yours Sincerely,

G B Hanna

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