

March, 24, 2015

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 16738-review.doc).

**Title:** Multimodal treatment of gastric cancer in West: where are we going?

**Authors:** Daniele Marrelli, Karol Polom, Giovanni de Manzoni, Paolo Morgagni, Gian Luca Baiocchi, Franco Roviello

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

**ESPS Manuscript NO: 16738**

Please note that a complete and accurate English revision has been performed by Authors. Although the Authors are non-native English speakers, they are particularly skilled in scientific English, as they published a mean of 100 papers in high-quality international Journals. Furthermore, most of them are involved in important International Committees: G.D.M. is the actual President of the International Gastric Cancer Association (IGCA), F.R. is a Member of the Board of IGCA, D.M. is the Scientific Secretary of the Italian Research Group for Gastric Cancer (GIRGC) and published more than 150 papers in international Journals to date.

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 Reviewers

We would like to thanks so much Editor and Reviewers for their important comments, which contributed to notably improve the quality of our paper.

As requested, the following is the list of responses to the specific comments by the Reviewers:

**Reviewer 2534290:**

Excellent, well documented, high quality review.

We would like to thank the Reviewer for the appreciation of our paper.

**Reviewer 2546401:**

The manuscript reviewed related clinical trials about gastric cancer treatment. And the authors tried to propose a multimodal approach to treat gastric cancer in this review. The study concept is clear. And the manuscript is well and concisely written. However, several major points need to point out.

1. English editing is required.

As requested, a complete and accurate English revision has been performed throughout the text.

2. This paper is entitled "Multimodal treatment of non-cardia gastric cancer in West: where are we going?". Therefore, the paper should emphasize on "non-cardia" gastric cancer treatment. However, the discussion in treatment section mainly centered on gastric cancer, not "non-cardia" gastric cancer. The authors should revise it or change the title.

Thank you very much for the suggestion. The title has been changed in "Multimodal treatment of gastric cancer in West: where are we going?".

3. The authors should focus more on gastric cancer treatment and reduce the length of gastric cancer epidemiology section.

More details have been added to gastric cancer treatment of early and advanced forms, including the extent of gastric resection, resection margins, splenectomy, lymphadenectomy, and so on. The length of epidemiology section has been also reduced.

4. In the gastric cancer epidemiology section, the authors should cite the latest reference, as "Jemal A, Bray F, Center MM, et al. Global cancer statistics. CA Cancer J Clin, 2011, 61:69-90".

The above mentioned important paper has been added to References

5. In targeted therapy section, the authors should add the VEGFR-2 tyrosine kinase inhibitor, Apatinib.

Thank you again for the suggestion. Studies on Apatinib have been added to the paragraph.

**Reviewer 2533764:**

The manuscript submitted by Marrelli et al., entitled "Multimodal treatment of non-cardia gastric cancer in West: where are we going?" reviewed multimodal approach to gastric cancer. Minor concerns exists. Minor concerns:

1. In Figure 5, the picture of T1N0 seems not to be T1, it is much better to replace the picture.

Thank you very much for suggestion. The picture has been replaced with a more appropriate endoscopic treatment image regarding an early form.

2. In Figure 5, there is no postoperative adjuvant chemotherapy. Do Authors not recommend postoperative adjuvant chemotherapy?

The option to perform postoperative adjuvant chemotherapy has been added to the Figure, as correctly suggested by the Reviewer.

#### **Reviewer 2537632:**

In this review, the authors summarized the changes and development in the epidemiology and treatment non-cardia gastric cancer, and proposed a multimodal approach in the end. Overall, it was quite well written, instructive, and provided systematic review for readers in this area. Here I have a few suggestions:

1. In the beginning, the authors described too much about the epidemiologic changes of gastric cancer, early prevention and diagnosis should be mentioned here.

Thank you very much for nice comments. As requested, the epidemiology section has been shortened, and a paragraph regarding early prevention and diagnosis has been added.

2. As concerning to each treatment, there are many finished or ongoing clinical trials, a table with brief introductions will be helpful for readers to understand.

A Table summarizing the main finished and ongoing trial has been included, as suggested.

3. In the title, the authors gave a question that where we are going? however, the answer was not easy to be found in the manuscript, the authors are encouraged to discuss more about the multimodal approach in the conclusion.

We agree with the Reviewer that the answer to the question "Where are we going?" was not clear. In the Conclusions, more discussions about multimodal approach and potential problems to be faced by clinicians in the future have been added.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

On behalf of all the Authors, we thank you very much all the Reviewers for their important revision, comments and suggestions.

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

Sincerely yours,

Daniele Marrelli, MD



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