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Prof. Lian-Sheng Ma
Editor-in-Chief, *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

Re: ESPS Manuscript NO: 16961

Dear Professor Ma,

Thanks for your email message on March 05, 2015 regarding our manuscript entitled "*Personalized and targeted therapy for esophageal squamous cell carcinoma*". We appreciate very much the comments and suggestions. We have revised our manuscript in accordance with the journal's policies. Here we address the comments point by point as follows:

Reviewer # 02570860 (Reviewer Comments to the Author):

Considering the readers are expert in this field, the introduction could be more concise. Minor suggestion!

Response: We have revised the Introduction section by removing several paragraphs. The new Introduction is as follows (Page 7): "*Esophageal cancer accounts for the eighth most common cause of cancer-related death worldwide(Ref 1). Esophageal squamous cell carcinoma (ESCC) remains the predominant histology. Surgery is still the mainstay of treatment throughout the world, and up to 50% of 5-year survival rate and lower than 5% of surgical mortality rate could be achieved in selected Asian centers(Ref 2). Notwithstanding multimodality treatment may achieve a better outcome, overall survival improves modestly(Ref 3). Most patients with localized disease will develop metastatic disease, the combination of chemotherapy actually many, effect actually really micro(Ref 4). After disease progression on first-line chemotherapy, there is no standard second-line treatment(Ref 5).The unsatisfactory outcome in ESCC is mainly due to late diagnosis, aggressiveness of this cancer, and lack of effective treatment strategies(Ref 6).*"

Reviewer # 03081547 (Reviewer Comments to the Author):

This review article describes very recent knowledge about personalized and targeted therapy for ESCC. It is comprehensive and informative for the journal readers.

Response: We appreciate this Reviewer for recognizing potential relevance and significance of this Editorial.

Sincerely yours,

Xiaoxin Luke Chen