July 3, 2015

Lian-Sheng Ma
President and Company Editor-in-Chief
World Journal of Gastroenterology

Dear Lian-Sheng

I send a revised version of our review-manuscript (ESPS MS No: 18784), which entitled “Recent aspects for disseminated carcinomatosis of the bone marrow associated with gastric cancer: What has been done for the past, what will be needed in future?”, to you. I corrected and/or answered to the reviewer’s comments, which are explained precisely in the attached seats (To the reviewer:).

I hope that the revised version will be suitable for the publication in World Journal of Gastroenterology.

sincerely yours

Haruo Iguchi
Shikoku Cancer Center
Matsuyama, Japan

To the reviewer:

MS No: 18784

MS Title: Recent aspects for disseminated carcinomasis of the bone marrow associated with gastric cancer: what has been done for the past, and what will be needed in future?

Thank you for your reviewing of my article. I am very happy to hear that you have become interested in this article. Then, I have revised and/or answered according to your comments as follows (1-6). I hope that the revised version will be acceptable for the publication of your journal (World Journal of Gastroenterology).

1. Regarding the question about the difference in histology;

   It is a good point and very interesting. It might be different in histology between disseminated carcinomatosis of the bone marrow and bone metastasis from solid tumors. However, it seems difficult to distinguish them based on the findings of HE staining, because bone marrow infiltration is an early event also in the process of bone metastasis from solid tumors. There has been no report regarding the difference between them to date. Therefore, I have not refered to this point in the text.

2. Regarding Table 2;

   Table 2 was deleted according to your comment. Therefore, the text part of "The clinical ----- in Table 2" was deleted, too. (page 10, just before "2. Imaging diagnosis")

3. "In the part "B. Diagnosis" just before "2. Imaging diagnosis" ;
   there is a text part which belongs somewhere else ("although details"---until "urgently needed") since it addresses survival and prognosis.

   The incidence of this disease is refered in the "Introduction" (page 4), thus,

the text part of “Although details ---- urgently needed” was deleted from this part according to your comment.

4. Regarding the part of “2. Imaging diagnosis” ;

   I absolutely agree to your comment (you recommend highlighting ---) on the “2. Imaging diagnosis” part.

   I also mean the text part of “it should be ----- initial imaging test.” as a highlight of this section. I added another sentence of “I recommend that every patient, who is suspected of disseminated carcinomatosis of the bone marrow, should have at least a PET/CT. (page 11)” to emphasize as a highlight according to your comment.

5. Regarding “a survival time” in the “C. Treatment” part ;

   I already explained the more accurate data concerning the survival in the section of “2. Treatment of gastric cancer (chemotherapy)”(page 14). Thus, in the section of introduction for the “C. Treatment” part, I used an ambiguous expression on purpose (page 11-12).

6. Regarding the part of “3. Treatment of bone lesions” in “D. Problems to be addressed”;

   I deleted the last sentence of this part(“Thus, prospective ---- treatment efficacy.”), and added an explanation about to whom BMAs should be used(“Thus, I recommend that -----with or without BMAs.”). (page 18)

7. Regarding the “conclusion” part;

   I agree to your comment. Thus, I deleted the part of “Dramatically effective ---- low incidence.” according to your comment.