

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS

June 15, 2015

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 20980-review.doc).

Title: The Role of Raman Spectroscopy and SERS in Colorectal cancer

Author: Cerys A Jenkins, Paul D Lewis, Peter R Dunstan and Dean A Harris

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 20980

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 The description of Raman scattering has been clarified.

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewers

(1) A short paragraph has been included in order to give readers an insight into the use of SRS Raman spectroscopy for other applications such as liver disease including the suggested reference.

(2) The current diagnostic pathways section now includes information on other available technologies such as the mSEPT 9 blood test and the M2PK test for stool that have higher specificity and sensitivities for detecting colorectal cancer.

(3) The conclusion now attempts to explain where Raman and SERS techniques relate to

the current technologies explaining that it has the potential to be used as both an alternative and an adjunct but still needs a lot of development in order to be used in a clinical setting.

(4) There is now a short comment on how Raman and SERS techniques could become “observer independent” diagnostic tools through development of analysis software.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

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

Sincerely yours,

Cerys A Jenkins

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