

World Journal of Gastroenterology

Dear, Editor-in-Chief

Please find the original manuscript entitled “**Association between hepatocellular carcinoma and tumor necrosis factor alpha polymorphisms in Korea**” to be considered for publication in **World Journal of Gastroenterology**.

We genotyped five single nucleotide polymorphisms (TNF- α -1031T>C, -863C>A, -857C>T, -308G>A, and -238G>A) in hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) patients and control subjects. We observed that none of the TNF- α polymorphisms was significantly associated with HCC. However, a number of genotype combinations and some haplotypes had association with HCC. In addition, HCC Okuda stage III cases with the TNF- α -1031 TT genotype had a better prognosis than those with the CC genotype.

And, we added three supplemental Tables (1-3) only for review for stratified analysis according to age and gender, and a figure (1) to show Cox curve for survival for TNF- α -1031 T>C genotypes in HCC Okuda stage III case.

This manuscript has not been published in part and is not being presented for publication elsewhere. All co-authors have agreed to submit this manuscript to your journal, **World Journal of Gastroenterology**. All authors declare no conflict of interest. We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours Sincerely,

Prof. Seong Gyu Hwang, MD, PhD

Department of Internal Medicine,

CHA Bundang Medical Center,

CHA University.

Yatapro 59, Bundang-gu,

Seongnam 463-712, South Korea

TEL : +82-31-780-5213

FAX: +82-31-780-5219

E-mail : sghwang@cha.ac.kr