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São Paulo, February 4th 2013

**Title:** Reference genes for quantitative RT-PCR data in gastric tissues and cell lines.

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Dear Editor,

The statistical analysis reported in the brief article titled “Reference genes for quantitative RT-PCR data in gastric tissues and cell lines” was performed using four software packages for identifying the optimal reference gene among a set of candidates. These software packages are intuitive and easy to use, providing automatically a rank of candidate normalization genes according to their expression stability in a given sample set and given experimental design. To validate these results, we performed a simple statistical test, Kruskal-Wallis test, to compare the medians between the three groups studied. The authors have experience in statistical analysis and have several published studies about gene expression in gastric cancer [[1-4](#_ENREF_1)]. The authors believe that it is not necessary a biostatistician review and statement that the statistical analyses performed in this article are correct.

References

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4. da Costa Jde, F., et al., Experimental gastric carcinogenesis in Cebus apella nonhuman primates. PLoS One, 2011. 6(7): p. e21988.

Sincerely yours,



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