

Reviewer 1

The relationship between *H. pylori* eradication on the development of metachronous gastric cancer (MGC) after endoscopic submucosal dissection (ESD) for early gastric cancer remains controversial. The present retrospective study investigates the effect of *H.pylori* status and eradication on the occurrence of MGC and risk factors after ESD. The authors declared that the risk factors of MGC after ESD for early gastric cancer were gastric mucosal atrophy and intestinal metaplasia, and *H.pylori* eradication has no preventive effect on the development of MGC. The paper is well written. However, the differences in the baseline characteristics of patients included, eg., the atrophy and intestinal metaplasia status, the small number of MGC patients, and the determination of *H.pylori* status, make the results unbelievable.

Answer: We agree with your comment. We have added these as limitations of this study in the discussion. Further prospective studies are needed to clarify association between *H. pylori* status test and *H. pylori* eradication and metachronous gastric cancer.

Reviewer 2

The manuscript entitled: "The association between *Helicobacter pylori* status and the incidence of metachronous gastric cancer after endoscopic submucosal dissection of early gastric cancer" has aimed determine the effect of HP status test and HP eradication on the occurrence of MGC after ESD of EGC and risk factors of MGC. The goal of this study is unclear: Is the goal of the authors to compare the incidence of MGC among Hp-positive [no data available] versus Hp-negative [N=95, (MGC=7), 7.4%] subjects, prior to treatment? Is the goal to compare the incidence of MGC among subjects before [no data available] versus after Hp eradication [N=120, (MGC=3), 2.5%]? Is the goal to compare Hp-treatment success on the development of MGC, in which case Hp-eradicated group [N=120, (MGC=3), 2.5%] should be compared to Hp-persistent group [N=19, (MGC=1), 5.3%]? The authors should first clarify their goals, before the manuscript can be reviewed accordingly.

Answer: Thank you for your comment. The goal of this study was to compare the development of MGC among three groups, the HP eradicated group, the HP persistent group and the HP negative group. We compared the HP eradicated group with the HP persistent group, the HP eradicated group with the HP negative group and HP persistent group with HP negative group. We have added this in the method section of the manuscript.