

Dear Editor,

I had revised the manuscript according to the reviewers' comments. The changes are as followed:

- I engaged language editing service to revise the language of the manuscript. I will be attaching the certificate with submission of the revised manuscript
- In the Technical procedures paragraph, I clarified the use of stylet as followed:
  - A stylet was routinely used when puncturing the lymph node. Prior to puncturing the lymph node, the stylet was withdrawn 1 cm when using cytology needles; no adjustment of the stylet was required when using Procore™ needles
- In the Results paragraph, I clarified how the total number of 168 EUS-guided tissue acquisition of lymph nodes were derived. There were 152 patients involved in the retrospective analysis, but eight patients had 2 lymph nodes sampled from different site, hence, this resulted in a total of 168 EUS-guided tissue acquisition.
- In the Discussion paragraph, I clarified the use of EUS to avoid any interposing blood vessels during tissue acquisition process to prevent bleeding complication.
- In the Discussion paragraph, I clarified the use of liquid-based cytology as followed:
  - Liquid-based cytology has the advantage of a monolayer cell dispersion, avoiding the contamination of samples by mucus and blood and ensuring consistent cell preparation without artifacts

Best Regards,

Yung Ka CHIN