

**December 5th, 2017**

**Dear Editors,**

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to revise our manuscript entitled “ SNP–SNP interactions of DNA repair gene ERCC5 with metabolic gene GSTP1 in the gastric cancer/atrophic gastritis risk modified by H. pylori infection in a Chinese population” (NO. 37074). We thank the reviewers for their positive comments and constructive suggestions. We value the opportunity and have done our best to revise the manuscript. This letter addresses the comments raised by the reviewers.

**Responses to Reviewers:**

**Reviewer #1: Excellent study. Only some minor language revision is required.**

Response: Thank you for the encouraging comment about our research. The manuscript has been revised again for proper English language usage, including grammar, spelling, and overall style, by highly qualified native English speaking editors at American Journal Experts, as shown in the following figure.



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**Manuscript title:**  
SNP–SNP interactions of DNA repair gene ERCC5 with metabolic gene GSTP1 in the gastric cancer/atrophic gastritis risk modified by H. pylori infection in a Chinese population

**Authors:**  
Liang Sang, Zhi lv, Liping Sun, Qian Xu, Yuan Yuan

**Date Issued:**  
December 5, 2017

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**Reviewer #2: Very interesting study. No special comments.**

Response: Thank you for the encouraging comment about our research.

**Reviewer #3: The study intended to investigate the interactions of the DNA repair gene ERCC5 with metabolic gene GSTP1 on atrophic gastritis (AG) and GC risk. Two pairwise combinations influenced AG risk, and the ERCC5 rs2094258-GSTP1 rs1695 SNP pair demonstrated an antagonistic effect while ERCC5 rs873601-GSTP1 rs1695 shown a synergistic effect on AG risk. None pairwise combination in relation to GC risk. There were no cumulative effects among the pairs-way interaction (ERCC5rs2094258 and**

rs873601 with GSTP1 rs1695) on AG susceptibility. While the effect modification of H. pylori infection was evaluated, the cumulative effect of one aforementioned pairs-way interaction showed a risk on the negative status of H. pylori. The authors found that there is a multifarious interaction between DNA repair gene ERCC5 (rs2094258 and rs873601) and metabolic gene GSTP1 rs1695 pathways, which may form the base for the inter-individual various susceptibility in AG risk. Over all, this manuscript is interesting. The results are good and well discussed. After a minor language revision, it can be accepted.

Response: Thank you for the encouraging comment about our research. The manuscript has been revised again for proper English language usage, including grammar, spelling, and overall style, by highly qualified native English speaking editors at American Journal Experts, as shown in the following figure.

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We hope that these revisions meet with your approval and that the manuscript is suitable for acceptance.

Sincerely yours,  
Dr. Liang Sang