

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS



July 27, 2013

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 4354-review.doc).

Title: Adjuvant surgery for advanced extrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma

Author: Yukio Oshiro, Kazuhiro Takahashi, Ryoko Sasaki, Tadashi Kondo, Shingo Sakashita, Nobuhiro Ohkohchi

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 4354

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

- 1 Format has been updated
- 2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

- (1) *The authors are encouraged not to make general conclusions based on a case story. Hence, the conclusion in the abstract regarding the potential of adjuvant surgery to improve prognosis should be modified. Accordingly, the statement about gemcitabine as effective agent for cholangiocarcinoma (p. 5 lines 4-6) and the conclusion on page 6 (beginning line24) should also be modified. It is inappropriate to suggest treatment strategies based on a single case.*

In accordance with the reviewer's comment, we have deleted the following conclusion in the Abstract,

“Adjuvant surgery has the potential to improve the prognosis for cholangiocarcinoma.”

In addition, we have changed the following text (p.5 line 4-6) from

“There is possibility that GEM is an effective chemotherapeutic agent for cholangiocarcinoma and warrants a randomized clinical trial.”

to

“It is possible that GEM is an effective chemotherapeutic agent for cholangiocarcinoma”
Additionally, we have changed the conclusion (p.6 beginning line 24) from

“This result suggests the advantages of using GEM for the treatment of advanced cholangiocarcinoma, and GEM-based chemotherapy should be tried more often for unresectable cholangiocarcinoma.”

to

“This result suggests possible advantages of using GEM for the treatment of advanced cholangiocarcinoma, and GEM-based chemotherapy could be tried more often for unresectable cholangiocarcinoma.”

- (2) *The phrase “randomized controlled prospective study” on page 5, line 6 is inappropriate. Suggest changing to “randomized clinical trial”.*

We strongly appreciate the reviewer's comment on this point. In accordance with the reviewer's comment, we have changed “randomized controlled prospective study” on page 5, line 6 to “randomized clinical trial”.

- (3) *In the summary of the study by Suzuki et al, it is unclear what the authors mean by effective in 20 patients based on liver and distal lymph node metastasis. Suggest that the authors specify.*

In accordance with the reviewer's comment, we have added the following text to the discussion (p. 5, line 11).

“The overall survival of patients in the partial response and curative resection groups was prolonged. The survival of patients with H or N factor was also prolonged, provided they received curative surgery. However, the survival of patients with P factor was not prolonged.”

- (4) *The last paragraph on page 5, which continues on page 6, lacks references.*

In accordance with the reviewer's comment, we have added references, 14, 15.

- (5) *On page 6 (line 9) the abbreviation CR is introduced but not used later. This is also the case for the abbreviations PIAF and GFP on page 5. Suggest that the authors minimize the use of abbreviations to increase readability.*

We thank you for the reviewer's comment on this point. In accordance with the reviewer's comment, we have deleted the abbreviations GFP, PIAF on page 5 (line 22) and CR on page 6 (line 9).

- (6) *On page 6 (line26) it is stated that long term survival was 6 yrs and 9 months. It would be more appropriate to write that the case was alive after 6 yrs and 9 months.*

In accordance with the reviewer's comment, we have changed the following text on page 6 (line26) from

“a long-term survival of 6 years 9 months”

to

“the case was alive after 6 yrs and 9 months”

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink on a light green background. The signature reads "Yukio Oshiro" in a cursive, flowing script.

Yukio Oshiro, MD, PhD

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