

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS



September 20, 2013

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 4387-review-R1.doc).

Title: Recent advances in photoacoustic endoscopy

Author: Tae-Jong Yoon, Young-Seok Cho

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 4387

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

Reviewer 1

(1) Add pictures, images, figures, etc.; It's an endoscopy Journal, after all: no photos no value for the reader

Answer: We greatly appreciate reviewer's comments to improve the quality of our manuscript. We added some figures as suggested by the reviewer.

(2) Summarize in a table the information about the described technology. The table should include columns with: acronyms (PAT, PAE, PAE-EUS, MSOT, PAM, PACT) and their full names, brief physics, current applications, future applications, additional value to standard endoscopy (standard includes EUS, and digital chromoendoscopy and OCT)

Answer: We added table including the information about the described technology.

(3) Describe in a figure starting from PAT the development of the other techniques.

Answer: We have included figure 2 that describes three major embodiments of photoacoustic tomography, with representative *in vivo* images.

(4) Since none of these techniques has been extensively evaluated, statements like "With further technological improvements, PAE is expected to become a valuable GI endoscopic imaging..." should be watered or even omitted.

Answer: We corrected the sentence as suggested by the reviewer.

Reviewer 2

(1) Figure explaining the how photoacoustic works

Answer: We greatly appreciate reviewer's comments to improve the quality of our manuscript. We have included illustration (figure 1) of the photoacoustic effect and photoacoustic imaging.

(2) Endoscopic images of various imaging systems that has been mentioned in the manuscript

Answer: We added simultaneous photoacoustic endoscopy and endoscopic ultrasound images of rabbit exophagus (figure 3).

(3) Table comparing the characteristics of photoacoustic systems

Answer: As mentioned above, we added table including the information about the described technology.

Changes have been made by blue color point in the revised portions of manuscript.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

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

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Young-SeoK Cho". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Young-SeoK Cho, MD, PhD
Dept. of Internal Medicine
Uijeongbu St. Mary's Hospital
271 Cheonbo-ro
Uijeongbu 480717, South Korea
Tel: +82-31-820-3658
Fax: +82-31-847-2719
E-mail: yscho@catholic.ac.kr