

December 17, 2013

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (**EUS for Colon Cancer Staging:** 4501-review.doc).

Title: The forward-viewing radial-array echoendoscope for staging of colon cancer beyond the rectum

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Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 4501

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

1 Format has been updated

Answer: Yes

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

(1) Question from reviewer number 00181214: 21 colon cancers enrolled in 11 months looks not really a relevant number. Authors should clarify their hospital volume (number of colectomies performed for cancer and number of standard endoscopies performed for cancer each year). Moreover even though

authors declared to have calculate the sensitivy, specificity, PPV, NPV of the EUS and of the standard radiology, the show exclusively the accuracy results. These data need to be reported (also in tables).

a) Answer: A sentence of “During the study time, 82 patients with colon cancer located beyond rectum underwent colectomy. Twenty-one patients (25.6%) were recruited into the study.” was added into the first part of results session.

b) Answer: Table 3 was added to clarify about diagnostic values.

Modality	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV	Accuracy
EUS (N=21)	85.0%	-	94.4%	-	80.9%
CT scan (N=19)	76.5%	-	86.7%	-	68.4%

Table 3: Diagnostic values of EUS versus CT scan for staging of colon cancer (EUS = Endoscopic ultrasound, PPV = positive predictive value, NPV = negative predictive value)

3 References and typesetting were corrected

Answer: Yes

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

Sincerely yours,

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