

12th March 2019

Dear Editor,

First of all, we would like to thank you for considering the publication of our work in World Journal of Gastroenterology. We are truly grateful to yours and other reviewers' critical comments and suggestions.

Based on these, we have made careful modifications on the original manuscript. All changes made to the text are in red color and all authors concur with the revision.

Please find below the edits that have been done to the manuscript:

- *We changed the manuscript number in the title page, as it was erroneous.*
- *We changed title and short running title to be no more than 12 and 6 words respectively. We also added the new manuscript title in the Copyright License Agreement form.*
- *We explained all the abbreviations in the core tip and I also made an audio file describing it.*
- *We added the names of the authors and the manuscript title at the end of the core tip as indicated.*
- *We included additional discussion and references in the text as suggested by reviewers.*
- *We wrote the "Article highlights" section as you requested, and the reviewers suggested.*
- *We checked and confirmed that there are no repeated references and we added PMID and DOI when possible: References #3, #4, #9 and #16 are web sites or software.*
- *We provided the editable figures organized into a PowerPoint file.*
- *We removed abbreviations in the title of figures and tables.*
- *We changed symbols by superscript numbers and letters in our tables.*
- *We changed sub-tables 7a and 7b in tables 7 and 8.*
- *We have put supplementary materials into a separate file.*

We hope the new manuscript will meet your journal's standard. Below you will find our point-by-point responses to the reviewers' comments.

Reviewer #1:

- 1. This is a very interesting systematic review and meta-analysis that aimed to assess FIT accuracy for CRC detection in different clinical settings. In general, the manuscript is very good; English language is excellent. Methods section and statistical analysis section are clearly described. The figures and tables are clear and useful.**

Response: *We deeply thank the reviewer for these comments.*

- 2. I would suggest to include more references on the topic in the discussion (e.g. Vacante M, et al. World J Clin Cases. 2018; Godos J et al World J Gastroenterol. 2017).**

Response: *Thank you for your suggestion. We believe that both studies can be very useful for any research group interested in the study of colorectal cancer prediction models; therefore, we have included them in the discussion.*

- 3. Also, I would include a statement in the conclusion paragraph on the future direction and possible surgical/clinical application of the results of the study.**

Response: *Thank you for your comment. We have inserted additional discussion in the text.*

Reviewer #2:

- 1. In my opinion, you have to better highlight the role of the FIT and its impact on patient's management in the Conclusion of the manuscript.**

Response: *Thank you for your suggestion, we have tried to explain better our opinion about the role of FIT in symptomatic patients in the 'article highlights' section and we included a statement in the conclusion paragraph about the clinical application of the results of the study.*

Finally, we would like to thank you again for your suggestions to improve our work and for taking the time to read our manuscript. We hope that you will find our revised manuscript to be appropriate for publication in the World Journal of Gastroenterology.

Sincerely,

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