

Response to Reviewers' Comments

I would like to take the chance to thank the reviewers for the careful and thoughtful review of our manuscript. Based on your detailed instruction, we have revised the manuscript. Hopefully, you will find this version of manuscript acceptable for publication in *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology*.

Number ID: 02857359.

In my opinion, this study is very interesting. The study is well display. The methods are clear, include and exclude criterion of the patients are good and clear. Only the references are somewhat not new. Please make an update. Thank you.

A:>>Thank you for your careful review of our manuscript. We have updated the references in the manuscript.

Number ID: 02861628.

Lymphatic and/or blood vessel invasion is defined as the presence of tumor cells in the lymphovascular system or in the small veins of tumor tissue, under microscope. It plays an important role in tumor cell dissemination and metastasis during progression, which contributes to the poor prognosis of patients with gastric cancer. The Borrmann type IV gastric cancer is independently associated with a poor prognosis, but only few studies have examined the prognostic significance of Lymphatic and/or blood vessel invasion status combined with Borrmann type in proximal third gastric cancers patients. This study retrospectively compared the linicopathological characteristics of proximal third gastric cancers patients with and or without lymphatic and/or blood vessel invasion. The methods are described in adequate detail. The research objectives achieved in this study. Results are interesting. Are there any data about the follow up? I didn't find it. The main text required a minor language editng. And the references should be updated.

A:>>Thanks a lot for your expert review. In the study, All patients underwent standardized follow-up every 3 months for the first 2 years after surgery, every 6 months during the

third year, and annually thereafter. The follow-up period was from surgery until the patient's death or October 2017. The median follow-up period was 65 months (range: 2–122 months). We have updated the references and polished our article at MedE Editing Service (<http://meditorexpert.com>) for English language editing again.

Number ID: 02832062.

Very interesting study of prognostic significance of lymphatic and/or blood vessel invasion in GC. I recommend to publish this manuscript after some minor language editing.

A:>>Thank you for your positive comments. We have polished our article at MedE Editing Service (<http://meditorexpert.com>) for English language editing again.

Additionally, other points in the manuscript addressed by editor had been accepted by us.