

Dear Editors and Reviewers:

Thank you for your letter and for the reviewers' comments concerning our manuscript entitled "*The efficacy and safety of anti-PD-1/anti-PD-L1 antibody therapy in the treatment of advanced gastric cancer or gastroesophageal junction cancer: a systematic review and meta-analysis*" (ID: 57419). Those comments are all valuable and very helpful for revising and improving our paper, as well as the important guiding significance to our researches. We have carefully revised the manuscript according to your suggestions and a point-by-point responses are enclosed. The modified part has been marked in blue.

Thank you again for providing us with the opportunity of re-submitting this revised manuscript. We would highly appreciate your time and effort in re-evaluating this manuscript any assistance that you can provide. Please do not hesitate to contact us for any questions and/or concerns, and we would be glad to address them as much as we can.

Sincerely yours

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Responds to the reviewer's comments:

**Reviewer 1**

Comment 1: Introduction: If you describe the theoretical background in more detail in the Introduction section, it will help you understand. In particular,

"efficacy and safety of anti-PD-1/anti-PD-L1 antibody therapy" should provide sufficient theoretical background for readers' understanding.

**Response:** We have added a more detailed theoretical background to paragraphs 3, 4, and 5 (pages 3 and 4) of the "1 Introduction" section of the article, especially the theoretical background of "efficacy and safety of anti-PD-1/anti-PD-L1 antibody therapy".

Comment 2: page 4: Inclusion and exclusion criteria need more specific explanation.

**Response:** Based on the specific criteria for the inclusion and exclusion of the literature for this meta-analysis, we have added more specific and detailed instructions in the "2.2 Inclusion and exclusion criteria" section (page 4) of the article.

Comment 3: page 4: The author stated that he used "MeSHs headings" to search the literature. However, there is no "MeSHs headings" in the search terms. Did the author remove the notation "MeSHs headings"?

**Response:** Thank you for your careful work. MeSHs headings have been deleted, because the final search formula is obtained after we have expanded based on MeSHs database. We searched and expanded the keywords of Stomach Cancer, gastroesophageal, Nivolumab, Pembrolizumab, Atezolizumab, Durvalumab, and Avelumab in PubMed's MeSHs database, and then manually added to the search formula. Finally, it was searched in selected databases (PubMed, Web of Science, Cochrane library and EMBASE databases). For example, Gastric Cancer can also be represented by Stomach Cancer or Stomach Neoplasm or Gastric Neoplasm or GC in the MeSHs database. Nivolumab can be expanded to MDX-1106 or ONO-4538 or BMS-936558 or Opdivo.

Comment 4: The statistical method of meta-analysis is appropriate.

**Response:** Thank you very much for affirming this meta-analysis method.

Comment 5: page 5: "3.3Quality assessment of included studies": "Quality assessment of included studies" is as important as meta-analysis. Readers are likely to be interested in the results of the "Quality assessment of included studies". I suggest giving the author more specific information about the "Quality assessment of included studies".

**Response:** In response to the quality of the included literature, we have added more results of the literature quality assessment in the "3.3 Quality Assessment of Incorporated Research" section (page 5).

Comment 6: In the "Discussion" section, the author should refer to the previous study and explain in more detail the mechanism of "efficacy and safety of anti-PD-1/anti-PD-L1 antibody therapy".

**Response:** We read and referred to some previous relevant research on the mechanism of Immunoregulatory therapy, and provide a detailed complement to the first paragraph (page 7) of the "4 Discussion" section of the text.

Responds to the **Science Editor's** comments:

Comment 1: I found the title was more than 20 words. The title should be no more than 20 words.

**Response:** Thanks for the inattention of the incompleteness, we have modified the title of the article to " *Efficacy and safety of anti-PD-1/anti-PD-L1 antibody therapy in the treatment of advance gastric cancer or gastroesophageal junction cancer: A meta-analysis* "(Page 1).

Comment 2: I found the authors did not provide the approved grant application form(s). Please upload the approved grant application form(s) or

funding agency copy of any approval document(s).

**Response:** The approved funding application forms has been uploaded to the system.

Comment 3: I found the authors did not provide the original figures. Please provide the original figure documents. Please prepare and arrange the figures using PowerPoint to ensure that all graphs or arrows or text portions can be reprocessed by the editor.

**Response:** The original figures has been uploaded.

Comment 4: I found the authors did not add the PMID and DOI in the reference list. Please provide the PubMed numbers and DOI citation numbers to the reference list and list all authors of the references. Please revise throughout.

**Response:** We have completely re-searched one by one and added the PMID and doi number of the reference and all authors who listed the references in the "References" section (pages 10 to 15).

Comment 5: The authors need to fill out the PRISMA Checklist form with page numbers.

**Response:** We have carefully checked and filled out the "PRISMA 2009 checklist", this form has been uploaded to the magazine system.