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Dear Drs Bloomfield, Peng and Vento,

Thank you for allowing us to review our manuscript to World Journal of Clinica Cases. We would like to extend the utmost gratitude to the editor and reviewers for the time taken to review our manuscript. We appreciate the positive feedback received and remain aware of the limitations of our study. We have revised and edited the manuscript based on your suggestions. Please see below our response in a “point-by-point” fashion. We hope that we have adequately addressed your concerns and that you find this new optimized version suitable for publication in your esteemed journal.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Cem Simsek on behalf of other co-authors
Division of Gastroenterology
Hacettepe University
Ankara, Turkey

Summary of the Peer-Review Report:

1) The authors reported an interesting paper, but how can all the data, histopathological sections and immunohistochemistry be preserved for so long time?

We appreciate the kind comments of the reviewer. This study was conducted in a nationwide tertiary referral center in the country. Due to the retrospective design of the study, the patients' clinical data were collected from the electronic health record software of the university hospital. Our pathology center preserves tissues for 20 years for in order to be used both clinical and research purposes. This biobank composes of formalin fixated and paraffin embedded tissue sections. Regarding this study, we have re-evaluated the histopathology and immunohistochemistry profiles after obtaining the new sections and with tissue microarrays when needed. The method sections were revised as below in order to clarify for the readers:

In abstract methods section: An established database of a nation-wide tertiary referral center in between 2005 and 2020 were retrospectively re-evaluated and diagnoses were confirmed by two experts by macroscopical, histological and immunohistochemical examinations with the new sections obtained. Tissue microarrays were also constructed when the cases lacking necessary immunohistochemical studies. Clinical data and follow-up information was collected from hospital records and patients themselves when available.

In the main methods section: "The specimens were re-evaluated macroscopically, histologically and immunohistochemically by report first. Then a tissue microarray was constructed for when cases lacked necessary immunohistochemical studies. Macroscopic findings (such as tumor borders, size, GIS contact and location) were recorded from pathology reports if available. All cases were reviewed from histological perspective including the rate of mitosis and nuclear atypia, as well as cellularity, hemorrhage, degeneration and tumoral necrosis."

In article highlights research methods section: "From a nation-wide referral center's 15 years of biobank database we have collected clinical, radiologic and clinical variables as well as re-evaluated the histopatology and immunohistochemistry of specimens with new sections from paraffin embedded tissues."

2) The authors need to provide the signed Conflict-of-Interest Disclosure Form, Copyright License Agreement, Institutional Review Board Approval Form.

Three documents are uploaded to the submission system.

- 3) ***The authors' information should be put in the first page;***

Authors' information was added to the title page

- 4) ***The "Author Contributions" section is missing. Please provide the author contributions;***

Author Contributions were added to the manuscript.

- 5) ***The authors did not provide original pictures. 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;***

Original pictures were submitted to the system.

- 6) ***PMID and DOI numbers are missing in the reference list. List all authors of the references. The reference's number with square bracket should be superscript.***

Citations and bibliography was updated as requested.

- 7) ***The "Article Highlights" section is missing. Please add the "Article Highlights" section at the end of the main text;***

Article highlights section was added to the manuscript.

- 8) ***The table should be in the word or excel format, we'll edit the fonts and the symbols in it***

Table was submitted in excel format.