

January 27, 2014

Dear Editor,

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers' comments (file name: 6382-review.doc).

Title: Potential Role of Human Papilloma Virus in the Pathogenesis of Gastric Cancer

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Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 6382

Answer to reviewer No. 1

1. A paragraph about positive and negative PCR controls has been added in "Material and methods".
2. Additional 32 new individuals have been added to the study group which now includes 84 patients.
3. All the figures have been replaced by another ones of good quality.
4. Extensive language editing was performed by a recommended English language editing company.

Answer to reviewer No. 2

1. Conclusions have been reedited and drawn more precisely.
2. Advantages of the proposed HPV detection method have been discussed in the manuscript text.
3. Epidemiologic data concerning GAC mortality has been updated, as well as a corresponding citation has been provided.
4. Information about ethnicity of the participants has been included in Table 1. It would be very difficult to compare results between ethnicities according to the reviewer suggestion, because population of Central and Eastern Europe is almost 100% of Caucasian ethnicity.
5. Description and principles of the PCR followed by p16^{INK4a} IHC algorithm used in the study has been included in "Discussion". More extensive analysis of the algorithm including analytical sensitivity and specificity is presented in references 31 and 32
6. A detailed information about positive and negative PCR controls has been added in "Material and methods".
7. All the figures have been replaced by another ones of good quality.

Sincerely yours,



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