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To: Dr Toru Aoyama,

Title: Prognostic factor of stage 1B gastric cancer

Authors used the stepwise selection method for the multivariable Cox model analysis (it should be written in the 97th line) . The significance level of the P value for a variable to entry and stay in the model was set at 0.05. It was a conservative approach for the sample size of this study. Age, gender, or lymphatic invasion might appear to be prognostic factors with more patients. However, it’s not overstating but scientific attitude to explore the prognostic factor of stage 1B gastric cancer.

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