

## Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS



Feb 4, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 7027-Review.doc).

**Title:** TNM staging of colorectal cancer should be reconsidered by T stage weighting

**Author:** Li Jun, Guo Bao-Cai, Sun Li-Rong, Wang Jian-Wei, Fu Xian-Hua, Zhang Su-Zhan, Graeme Poston, Ding Ke-Feng

**Name of Journal:** *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 7027

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format has been updated according to "The revision policies of BPG for brief article".

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

(1) Add the clear statement, which is in page 8 in red type, of potential bias that can arrive from SEER database that can affect patients' survival and the conclusions.

(2) Add the clear statement, which is in page 11 in red type, that prospective RCT and stratified studies are necessary to prove the concept of importance of T over N stage and the need for colorectal TNM staging system revision

(3) The English has been polished again by Prof. Graeme Poston who is the President of European Society of Surgical Oncology (Tel:+44 0 151 525 5980, Fax:+44 0 151 529 8547, Email: [graeme.poston@aintree.nhs.uk](mailto:graeme.poston@aintree.nhs.uk)).

(4) This manuscript is an **Observational Study** according to the "ESPS-Columns scope note".

3 References and typesetting were corrected.

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DING KEFENG'.

Prof. Kefeng Ding

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