

We are grateful to both reviewers for the very useful suggestions and insights induced by the questions received.

#### Reviewer 1

Response 1: We have included a Western perspective on ICG in gastric cancer. We feel that the Western view adds novelty and will stimulate reflection in readers

Response 2: We have made more explicit the methods to avoid false negative SLN: we have added an in-depth description of the lymphatic basin dissection technique and a concise list of the various advanced histological techniques. Furthermore, we have made it more explicit that SLN detection should be limited to T1 lesions smaller than 4-5 cm.

Answer 3: In our revision there is a chart focusing on the practical use of ICG. In addition, we have implemented the current practice of ICG-guided lymphography in our review. We have described how our equipment works in practice. Furthermore, this topic has been explored in depth in the various chapters of our manuscript

#### Reviewer 2

We are grateful for the extensive and profound considerations which have considerably broadened our view of the subject. Consequently we have incorporated most of your considerations into our manuscript,

We have corrected our definition of a sentinel lymph node.

We have made the various techniques for using the ICG more explicit.

We have further commented on the criticality due to the dilution of the ICG in different parts of our manuscript.

We have supplemented our manuscript with the indispensable description of the dissection of the lymphatic basin and with some figures kindly provided by the Author.

We have included a Western perspective thanks to the very useful considerations and suggestions on the role of ICG fluorescence in gastric cancer expressed by you.

We have reflected a lot on your authoritative comment that our article is a one-sided review and have consequently revised our opinion on the role of ICG in gastric carcinoma in our manuscript. However, we feel that it is necessary to supplement this topic with a western view. For example, it would be very welcome if multi-centre protocols involving asian centres together with western centres were conducted in the future. Until then it will be difficult for our western view to be extensively modified.

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