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14 October 2023

Joo Young Cho MD, PhD, Bing Hu, MD, Anastasios Koulaouzis, MD, PhD and Sang Chul Lee, MD, PhD

Editors-in-Chief

World Journal of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy

Jin-Lei Wang

Company Editor-in-Chief, Editorial Office

Baishideng Publishing Group Inc

Dear Dr. Drs. Cho, Hu, Koulaouzis, Lee and Editor Wang,

Re: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Manuscript NO: 87677

On behalf of the authors, please find below responses to all reviewer comments. We believe that all concerns have been addressed. All changes are in bold font in the manuscript.

Reviewer #1:

Specific Comments to Authors:

Arshad et al. investigated the incidence and mortality of esophageal cancer in the United States. The results reported have implications on the prevention and management of esophageal cancer. This reviewer has some minor suggestions.

1. Introduction: first and second sentences. The cited reference are old-dated. May use a relatively recent one: Xie Y, Shi L, He X, Luo Y. Gastrointestinal cancers in China, the USA, and Europe. *Gastroenterol Rep (Oxf)*. 2021 Mar 29;9(2):91-104. doi: 10.1093/gastro/goab010. PMID: 34026216; PMCID: PMC8128023.

We appreciate Reviewer 1's comments and have updated references for the first and second sentences of the introduction as follows: references 1 and 2 for the first sentence as listed below. We also appreciate reviewer #1 suggestions for this. For the second sentence, original reference 4 is now reference 3 as we believe this is a seminal publication on esophageal cancer. New references 4 and 5 provide are updated references relevant to the content of the second sentence.

1. Xie Y, Shi L, He X, et al. Gastrointestinal cancers in China, the USA and Europe. *Gastroenterol Rep (Oxf)*. 2021 Mar 29; 9(2): 91-104. doi: 10.1093/gastro/goab010.
2. Sung H, Ferlay J, Siegel RL, et al. Global cancer statistics 2020: GLOBOCAN estimates of incidence and mortality worldwide for 36 cancers in 185 countries. *CA Cancer J Clin* 2021; 71: 209-249. doi: 10.3322/caac.21660.
3. Rustgi AK, El-Serag HB. Esophageal carcinoma. *N Engl J Med*. 2014;371:2499-509. doi: 10.1056/NEJMra1314530.
4. Allemani C, Matsuda T, Di Carlo V, et al. Global surveillance of trends in cancer survival 2000-13 (CONCORD-3): analysis of individual records for 37,513,025 patient diagnosed with one of 18 cancers from 322 population-based registries in 71 countries. *Lancet*. 2018 Mar 17;391(10125):1023-1075. doi: 10.1016/S0140-6736(17)33326-3.
5. Arnold M, Rutherford MJ, Bardot A, et al. Progress in cancer survival, mortality and incidence in seven high-income countries 1995-2014 (ICBP SURVMARK-2): a population-based study. *Lancet Oncol* 2019 Nov;20(11):1493-1505. doi: 10.1016/S1470-2045(19)30456-5

2. How would the authors relate their findings with recent progress in the prognosis for esophageal cancer: Lavery A, Turkington RC. Transcriptomic biomarkers for predicting response to neoadjuvant treatment in oesophageal cancer. *Gastroenterol Rep (Oxf)*. 2021 Jan 8;8(6):411-424. doi: 10.1093/gastro/goaa065. PMID: 33442473; PMCID: PMC7793050

*We appreciate Reviewer 1's comments and suggestion. We have added the following sentence to the end of the 5th paragraph of the discussion addressing the issue mentioned by the reviewer: **Furthermore, the rapidly accumulating amount of genetic and transcriptomic data will hopefully allow for improved stratification resulting in optimal therapy and prognosis based on molecular subtype [35]. The paper above was added as reference 35.***

Thank you again for continued consideration of our manuscript for publication in the *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy*.

Respectfully,

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