

ANSWERING REVIEWERS



February 21, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 9187-edited1.doc).

Title: Neutrophil-lymphocyte ratio is useful for the prognosis of patients with hepatocellular carcinoma.

Author: Huseyin Kayadibi, Erdim Sertoglu, Metin Uyanik, Serkan Tapan

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 9187

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

1 Format has been updated

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

a) (00537002) In the original paper, NLR was the significant factor of tumor recurrence but the other factors were selected as prognostic factors. Because NLR is more complicated due to being a combined factor of inflammation and immune reaction, possible causes affecting NLR should be discussed in the paper. Therefore, the authors' suggestion is thought-provoking. It is suitable for publication in World Journal of Gastroenterology.

Response: OK.

b) (02861401) This article written by Huseyin Kayadibi et al attempts to commend on Yan's paper. Yan's paper has been published already and is well-written, although there is room to improve as suggested by

Huseyin Kayadibi et al. The study in Yan's paper was well designed with clear objective, and the method and results were clearly presented. The first comment made by Huseyin was clearly presented in Yan's paper. Yan was focusing on NLR, but he had never claimed to use NLR as a single test parameter to replace total tumor size and macro-vascular invasion. My understanding that Yan did not focus on total tumor size and macro-vascular invasion is because those two factors were well reported before. The other two comments made by Huseyin in the current article are valuable for improving Yan's paper and their future research. It would be better to deliver those comments to Yan. However, this article is not substantial enough to be a stand alone article (even if it might be just for a communication article).

Response: OK.

c) (01562153) This is a "Letter to the Editor" with discussions focusing on the article by Xiao et al. (Neutrophil-lymphocyte ratio predicts the prognosis of patients with hepatocellular carcinoma after liver transplantation. *World J Gastroenterol* 2013; 19: 8398-407). The authors addressed 3 issues that sounded reasonable. Comment The number of References could be decreased.

Response: References 6, 8 and 9 were deleted.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

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

Sincerely yours,

Huseyin KAYADIBI, MD, MSc

Department of Medical Biochemistry

Adana Military Hospital

Seyhan, Adana

Turkey

Fax: +90-322-2272338

E-mail: mdkayadibi@yahoo.com