

ANSWERING REVIEWERS

April 1, 2014



Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 9425-review.doc).

Title: The Length of Negative Resection Margin Does Not Affect Local Recurrence and Survival in the patients with Gastric Cancer

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Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 9425

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

(1) Reviewer 1

- ① We clearly indicated that the 0.5 cm of negative resection margin is enough PM in EGC or AGC.
- ② Title was changed to "The length of negative resection margin does not affect local recurrence and survival in the patients with gastric cancer". (However, we worried about your revision policy "Title should be less than 12 words.")
- ③ There was no cut off value of the "proximal margin" and "distal margin" in Table 4,5 and 8. (Table 3,4 and 5 in revised version.) Because all of them are analyzed as continuous value. This type of statistical analysis was confirmed by our statistician.
- ④ The number of table is reduced.

(2) Reviewer 2

- ① We add minimum and maximum resection margin in table 1.
- ② We described how many "stump recurrences" were included in "local recurrence".
- ③ Title was changed as reviewer 1 ordered.
- ④ Number of tables were reduced to 5.
- ⑤ We stressed the clinical importance of IFSE by adding many sentences in Discussion and Conclusion section.

(3) Reviewer 3

- ① We defined the difference between EGC and AGC groups in Method section.
- ② Table 2, table 3, table 6, table 7 were condensed into 1 table.
- ③ We described the actual denominator of patients who had those close margins of < 0.5 cm, < 1 cm, < 2 cm in Result section.
- ④ We described the meaning of proximal and distal resection margin under the table 3 and 4. The words "the length of" were added. And we had clearly described "the patients with positive resection margins were excluded" in Method section.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

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

Sincerely yours,

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