



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology*

Manuscript NO: 80562

Title: Clinical value of regional lymph node sorting in gastric cancer

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer’s code: 06335490

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: Doctor

Professional title: Chief Physician, Doctor, Professor

Reviewer’s Country/Territory: China

Author’s Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2022-10-03

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-10-03 14:08

Reviewer performed review: 2022-10-08 13:42

Review time: 4 Days and 23 Hours

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous



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statements

Conflicts-of-Interest: [] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is an instructive paper indicates that regional sorting of lymph nodes after radical gastrectomy can increase the number of detected lymph nodes. I think it is worthy of publication.



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Reviewer's code: 06357700

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Japan

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2022-10-03

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-10-05 09:44

Reviewer performed review: 2022-10-16 12:02

Review time: 11 Days and 2 Hours

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This retrospective observational study investigated the association between the number of positive lymph nodes with lymph node metastases in the second dissection station in ~200 patients diagnosed with gastric cancer. The manuscript is well written and findings are clearly described. However, there are some minor issues. Please find below my comments.

- Abstract, Background: please avoid using casual wordings “relationship” in observational studies. The authors may consider using “association”.
- Abstract / Core tip / Conclusion: The authors may wish to use “may / might” instead of “can” in results derived from observational studies.
- Methods: To increase the readability, please add brief descriptions on what variables were considered in the multivariate logistic regression.
- Discussion: References are needed. “Anatomical-based gastric cancer lymph node staging cannot ensure objectivity in clinical practice. “ and “... a pathologist who may not be familiar with gastric circumferential anatomy can easily identify the lymph nodes, rather than striving to identify "at least 16" lymph nodes. “
- Discussion: Could you clarify... by “...the No. 3 group near the small curved side...” and “location near the small curved side “ do you mean “the lesser curvature”?
- Discussion: “we found that the most vulnerable region was group No. 3...” and “... main direction of lymphatic reflux are more vulnerable.”. What do you mean by “vulnerable”? Please clarify.
- Discussion: “... further experimental researches are needed to indicated the biological mechanisms in GC of the four prognostic genes.”. Why were “four prognostic genes” suddenly mentioned in the Limitation section? It sounds like a new statement instead of a limitation of this study. If it’s irrelevant, please drop it.
- Discussion: Also, please elaborate a bit more on limitations, e.g. possible bias or potential reverse causality due to the nature of the study design or methods on data gathering.



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Discussion: should be “research” or “studies” not "researches". “to indicate” not “to indicated” - Conclusion: The sentence “the current lymph node staging and lymph node metastasis systems have a certain degree of consistency” is irrelevant as this conclusion was not evaluated in the present study. The authors may consider removing the sentence.