

June 15, 2015

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 18084-review.doc).

**Title:** Recent advances in the molecular diagnostics of gastric cancer

**Author:** Mitsuro Kanda, Yasuhiro Kodera

**Name of Journal:** *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 18084

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 00058104

- This is a well written review manuscript dealing with the "Recent advances in the molecular diagnostics of gastric cancer" that summarises the available information from the field of the translational cancer research focused on the gastric cancer. This manuscript does not provide any new information; however, it is a comprehensive collection of information that could be of value in the initial approach of the subject by any scientist interested on this.

Reply) We thank the Reviewer for favorable comments.

- Molecular diagnostics is a term that corresponds to the techniques used to diagnose diseases, monitor them, detect risk, and decide which therapies will work best in a personalised approach. It would be of great value if authors could provide information on which are the characteristics a molecular marker needs to have in order to be clinically valuable for each of the above mentioned applications; in addition, authors could provide information on which of these characteristics are met to the reviewed molecular markers. This could contribute to the understanding of the current status, limitations, and future regarding the use of each one of these markers.

Reply) We have re-organized the molecular markers according to your suggestion. The molecules were newly categorized based on their clinical implication; early detection, monitoring recurrences, prediction of survival and prediction of treatment response.

- Gastric cancer is the third most common cause of cancer-related death in the world, according to the most recent statistics. See: Ferlay J, Soerjomataram I, Ervik M, et al. GLOBOCAN 2012 v1.0, Cancer Incidence and Mortality Worldwide: IARC CancerBase No. 11 [Internet]. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer; 2013. Available from: <http://globocan.iarc.fr>

Reply) Thank you for your information. GLOBOCAN 2012 has now been referred in the text.

(2) Reviewer 02841708

- In the review, authors recommended literature from different indexes to seek reasonable proper molecules for diagnosis of gastric cancer. There is significance of this paper to guide clinical diagnosis for patients with gastric cancer.

Reply) Thank you for your favorable comments.

- However, I consider that the organization of the content is not appropriate, for molecular markers in gastric cancer play roles with different mechanism, and the category of these molecules was inappropriate in this review.

Reply) The molecular markers were re-organized. The molecules listed in the Tables were newly categorized based on their clinical implication; early detection, monitoring recurrences, prediction of survival and prediction of treatment response.

- Another problem is some molecular markers play different roles in different stages of gastric cancer, so author should explore it. I suggest authors to revise these problems.

Reply) We agree with your opinion. We revised the Tables to make it easy to be understood by categorizing into suggested roles of each molecular marker.

3 Languages and typesetting were corrected throughout the manuscript.

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

Sincerely yours,

Mitsuro Kanda, MD, PhD,



15/06/2018

Department of Gastroenterological Surgery (Surgery II),

Nagoya University Graduate School of Medicine,

65 Tsurumai-cho, Showa-ku, Nagoya 466-8550, Japan.

Tel: +81-52-744-2249, fax: +81-52-744-2252, e-mail: m-kanda@med.nagoya-u.ac.jp