

Dear readers,

In the February 2012 issue of the *World J Gastrointest Surg* (4(2):32-35) Scabini and Ferrando published an editorial entitled “Number of lymph nodes after neoadjuvant therapy for rectal cancer: how many are needed?”. It has been brought to our attention that segments of the editorial are identical or closely resemble the essential parts of the discussion of the original article “Preoperative chemoradiotherapy does not necessarily reduce lymph node retrieval in rectal cancer specimens – Results from a prospective evaluation with extensive pathological work-up” that was published in the *Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery* in 2009. Given the striking similarities of the two works, the *World J Gastrointest Surg* has decided to retract the editorial by Scabini and Ferrando.

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