

## ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 17870

**Title:** Influence of the hTERT rs2736100 polymorphism on telomere length in gastric cancer

**Reviewer's code:** 00068204

**Reviewer's country:** Brazil

**Science editor:** Jing Yu

**Date sent for review:** 2015-03-28 18:48

**Date reviewed:** 2015-05-22 22:35

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors performed an interesting study to evaluate the influence of hTERT rs2736100 polymorphism on mRNA expression levels and telomere length in gastric cancer patients and 5 cell lines, and the association of this polymorphism with gastric cancer risk in a Korean population. Despite of reduced number of gastric cancer samples (only 35) for hTERT mRNA and telomere length quantification, the results showed that A-allele carriers present lower hTERT mRNA expression and shortened telomere length in both gastric cancer tissue and cell lines. While the CC homozygous showed both parameters increased in intestinal-type gastric cancer. On contrary, there was no association of this polymorphism with gastric cancer risk in the population evaluated, which seems contradictory. Minor comments: 1-Materials and Methods: Measurement of telomere length and hTERT expression in gastric cancer tissues and cell lines. In this subsection was reported that the telomere length was examined in 35 gastric cancer tissues, while hTERT mRNA transcript expression was examined in 35 non-cancerous gastric mucosae. Why this discrepancy, since both analyzes should be performed in tumor tissue? The author should clarify this issue. 2- The legend of Figure 1



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should be corrected: "the PCR product of G-type allele" should be corrected for "the PCR product of C-type allele".

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

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 17870

**Title:** Influence of the hTERT rs2736100 polymorphism on telomere length in gastric cancer

**Reviewer's code:** 00069567

**Reviewer's country:** China

**Science editor:** Jing Yu

**Date sent for review:** 2015-03-28 18:48

**Date reviewed:** 2015-05-26 16:51

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

yes

## ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 17870

**Title:** Influence of the hTERT rs2736100 polymorphism on telomere length in gastric cancer

**Reviewer's code:** 00058184

**Reviewer's country:** China

**Science editor:** Jing Yu

**Date sent for review:** 2015-03-28 18:48

**Date reviewed:** 2015-05-16 06:16

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In this manuscript, Byung Joon Choi et al. analyzed the rs2736100 polymorphism, determining its involvement in the regulation of hTERT expression and telomere length. Furthermore, the authors examined its link to gastric cancer risk in a Korean population. The result is of novelty and enhanced our knowledge on the regulation of hTERT expression. This manuscript is well organized and the language is good. Taken together, this manuscript is acceptable for publication in World Journal of Gastroenterology.

## ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 17870

**Title:** Influence of the hTERT rs2736100 polymorphism on telomere length in gastric cancer

**Reviewer's code:** 00039078

**Reviewer's country:** United States

**Science editor:** Jing Yu

**Date sent for review:** 2015-03-28 18:48

**Date reviewed:** 2015-05-21 05:48

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
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		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This manuscript presents the interrelationship between telomere length and TERT expression between normal epithelium and gastric cancer. In intestinal type gastric cancer, tumor telomere length was found to be shorter and hTERT mRNA expression decreased in patients with the rs2736100 allelotype in intron 2 of TERT. However, this polymorphism was not found to be associated with gastric cancer risk. Well written and well presented there are just a few questions raised in my review of this paper. Were all the tissues and blood specimens used from the gastric cancer patients from prechemo/radiotherapy? In the results section, the last section of paragraph 2 in the Subsection Influence of rs2736100 polymorphism on telomere length and hTERT mRNA expression discusses the association of hTERT expression with the genotype of the studied SNP and how it is impacted by GKN1 treatment, particularly with regard to significant down regulation of TERT expression especially in those with C/A or A/A allelotypes. However, it isn't clear from Figure 2 whether the change in expression following GKN1 treatment is actually different in the cell lines based on their allelotype. This might be clarified by determining if the delta between



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pre and post treatment TERT expression levels is really different for each of the cell lines grouped by allelotype. Similarly, in Figure 2, the Y axis is not the same scale and does not align between 2 b and 2c. This would clarify these points as well.