

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS



March 19, 2013

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 2004-review.doc).

Title: Impact of Postoperative Complication on Long-Term Survival after Radical Resection for Gastric Cancer

Author: Qingguo Li, Ping Li, Dong Tang, Jie Chen, Daorong Wang

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 2004

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, **AIM:** The postoperative complications has a close relationship with long-term survival, but the impact of postoperative complications on long-term survival has not been reported in patients with gastric cancer. This study investigate the potential impact of complications for gastric cancer patients who survive the initial postoperative period.

2 **METHODS:** Patients were divided into 2 groups: with (n = 54) or without (n = 378) complications. Survival curves were compared between the groups, and Univariate and multivariate models were conducted to identify independent prognostic factors.

3 **Patients:** Patients' medical records and Clinicopathological data during the period from January 1, 2005 to December 31, 2006 were studied retrospectively at the department of the Department of Gastrointestinal Surgery, First Clinic Medical School of YangZhou university, YangZhou, China.. Patients inclusion criteria were: (1) All patients in the study had histologically confirmed gastric adenocarcinomas and received curative gastrectomy with D2 lymph node dissection (2) Information regarding postoperative complications and mortality was available for each patient studied

Follow-up

Complete follow-up was available for all study patients. Follow-up was calculated from the date of surgery. Follow-up data were obtained by phone, letter, and the outpatient

clinical database. The end of the follow-up was 5 years after surgery.

Survival

In the multivariate analysis, perineural invasion the size of the lesions, blood transfusion, lymphovascular invasion, neoadjuvant chemotherapy were no longer predictive factors for reduced survival. However, the TNM stage, and presence of complications remained significant predictors of reduced survival

3 References and typesetting were corrected

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

Sincerely yours,

Qingguo Li, Ping Li