

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS



January 31, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 7814-review.doc).

Title: Telomerase or hTERT: do they serve as markers in the diagnosis of human gastric cancer?

Author: Yong-Bo Cheng, Li-Ping Guo, Ping Yao, Xiao-Yan Ning, Gulimire-Aerken, Dian-Chun Fang

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 7814

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) The language and the grammar of the manuscript require some revision. The authors need to request an English speaking writer to edit the English of the manuscript.

Answer: We have had our manuscript edited by the English language editing company.

(2) The references list only publication between 2003 and 2008. The authors need to update the manuscript with the latest scientific and clinical improvements of this field.

Answer: The references have been updated with the latest scientific and clinical improvements of this field.

(3) The originality of the manuscript is strongly questionable. The authors refer Li et al. Cancer Lett. 2008 Feb 18;260(1-2):28-36: "Expression of the full-length telomerase reverse transcriptase (hTERT) transcript in both malignant and normal gastric tissues." as reference 6. After reading the abstract of that manuscript the message is identical of this manuscript with the already published work.

Answer: Our observation is different from that as Li et al reported in "Expression of the full-length telomerase reverse transcriptase (hTERT) transcript in both malignant and normal gastric tissues. Cancer Lett 2008; 260: 28-36". They found that hTERT mRNA and protein were expressed in normal gastric tissues. We reported that telomerase and hTERT were expressed in primary cultured normal human gastric mucosal endothelial cells. We tried to elucidate from cytological and histological point that using telomerase and hTERT as diagnostic marker for gastric cancer may need further investigation.

(4) Page 5, The authors state that "Fibroblasts resides widely in various tissues, both the benigns and the malignants. They were previously believed to lack telomerase activity and hTERT expression." in the discussion. The authors do not refer the publication which serves as the source of this statement. Reference should be provided.

Answer: Related reference has been provided.

(5) Page 5, in the same chapter authors state that "In our other study, telomerase activity and hTERT expression were similarly detected in primary cultured fibroblasts isolated from human gastric tissues (data not shown), which will interfere with their use as gastric cancer markers." The authors refers one from their previous studies without listing any of the data was published in that work. They need to insert data from that study into the discussion and insert this publication to the references.

Answer: Related data has been provided in the revised article.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

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

Sincerely yours,
Dian-Chun Fang

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