

Dear Editor,

We appreciate your review of our manuscript concerning gastric stump carcinoma. We have revised the manuscript, with altered text underlined and in bold, according to your comments, as described below.

For Reviewer No.00504213

1. This review manuscript was composed of six sections: Epidemiology, Reconstruction, *Helicobacter pylori*, Epstein-Barr virus, Clinicopathologic Characteristics and Endoscopic Treatment. All six co-authors, except Director Professor Yuichi Yamashita from our department and myself contributed to the review of the literature concerning each section and provided suggestions. Therefore, I added them as co-authors.
2. The term “*Helicobacter pylori*” has been changed to italics.
3. *H. pylori* infection was examined with respect to its role in the remnant stomach after distal gastrectomy.
4. To our knowledge, there are no reports concerning the relationship between the severity of gastroduodenal reflux and carcinogenesis in the remnant stomach.
5. Usually, the title should be written in lower case letters, and we agree with your

comments. However, this reference was old article and its title was written in capital letters in the original text, and other references in this manuscript also adopted with capital letters for the same manuscript. Therefore, we adopted capital letters for this article.

6. We have removed all unnecessary lines from the tables.
7. The interval in the middle shows the mean interval for all cases reported in the literature, while the interval on the right shows the intervals as to when the cases were classified as benign or malignant at the initial distal gastrectomy. We have added a description of the interval in the middle in the legend for Table 1.
8. In Table 2, “ana” and “non” indicate anastomosis and non-anastomosis sites, respectively. We have added an explanation of these abbreviations in Table 2.

For Reviewer No.02572232

This reviewer had no special comments for revision.

For Reviewer No.02439561

An official English medical editor whose native language is English has again reviewed and revised the updated manuscript.

For Reviewer No.00052063

To our knowledge, no previous clinical studies have compared the severity of atrophy and incidence of intestinal metaplasia according to the method of reconstruction after gastrectomy. However, Miwa used a rat model to experimentally evaluate this issue.

Concerning the degree of atrophy, we included an explanation that atrophic changes have been reported to be more severe in patients treated with Billroth II reconstruction than in those treated with Billroth I reconstruction in the original manuscript. In the revised text, we have added a comment that intestinal metaplasia is rare, referring to Miwa's experimental study.

We hope that our revised manuscript can again be reviewed and considered for publication in your journal.

Yours sincerely,

Shinsuke Takeno, MD., PhD.