

June 29, 2015

Ya-Juan Ma
Scientific Editor
World Journal of Gastroenterology

Subject: Minor revision of **ESPS Manuscript NO 19350**

Dear Ya-Juan Ma:

Thank you very much for your consideration of our manuscript entitled: *Companion diagnostics for targeted therapy of gastric cancer*. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to the reviewers for additional constructive suggestions. Our point-by-point response to their comments and changes made in the manuscript are outlined below. Although this manuscript had been edited by native English speaker, we performed another round of English editing according to your recommendation.

Two copies of the manuscript are provided: one clean copy and one with tracked changes. We believe that this revision has further enhanced the quality of the manuscript and trust that the current revised version will be acceptable for publication in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Young Soo Park, MD, PhD

Department of Pathology, Asan Medical Center, University of Ulsan College of Medicine,

88, Olympic-ro 43-gil, Songpa-gu, Seoul, Korea, 138-736

Point-by-Point Response:

[Reviewer 1 Comments for the Authors...](#)

Changhoon et al describe in a “current status and future...in gastric cancer”. This is a review article which was well written and I agree with majority of it, but I would still clarify a couple of doubts.

1. Authors have to explain “challenges in companion diagnosis” section using concrete proposal. (example: new biomarker, another therapeutic targets)

Response: We appreciate your valuable comment for our manuscript. Because the subject of this review is the companion diagnostics for detection of biomarkers of novel targeted therapy, multiple established and/or candidate biomarkers are already mentioned in the manuscript. In the ‘Challenge in companion diagnostics’ section, we intended to mention the difficulties in the development of companion diagnostics. Because this study is not for the biomarkers of gastric cancer, we think that the proposal for

‘new biomarkers and therapeutic targets’, suggested by reviewer, is out of scope for our manuscript. However, if the reviewer strongly feels that this is required for our manuscript, we will add the sentences for this.

2. Please mention about VEGF, ramucirumab (Fuchs Cs et al. Lancet 2014,Jan 4:383 (9911):31-9).

Response: As ramucirumab, an anti-VEGFR-2 antibody, has been approved for the treatment of GC based on the success of the REGARD and RAINBOW trials^[16, 17], targeting the VEGF pathway is now considered to be a valid strategy for treating GC. However, no biomarker has been established that can predict the efficacy of ramucirumab. Further studies are urgently required to identify potential biomarkers for VEGF-targeted therapy, including ramucirumab.