

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS



October 20, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: _____).

Title: Absolute monocyte and lymphocyte count prognostic score for patients with gastric cancer

Author: Wan Kyu Eo, Da Wun Jeong, Hye Jung Chang, Kyu Yeoun Won, Sung Il Choi,

Sehyun Kim, Sungwook Chun, Yong Il Ji, Young Lim Oh, Tae Hwa Lee, Heung Yeol Kim, Young Ok Kim, Ki Hyung Kim, Ari Kim

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 13353

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 authors used the ANOVA for mean comparisons, please state in the manuscript that the variables used for the ANOVA analysis showed normal distribution; otherwise the ANOVA is not correct statistical method, then a non-parametric method needs to be used for comparing the medians and not the means.

(2) In the multivariate analysis for both OS and DFS, only age, TNM, and AMLPS were the only predictors I would recommend to shorten the section in the Results section by stating something like: "In the multivariate analysis, the only predictors for OS and DFS were age, TNM staging system and AMLPS.

(3) Since one of the possible mechanisms of the AMLPS is the balance between host immunosurveillance (i.e., ALC) versus tumor growth (i.e., AMC), I think the authors should add a section in the discussion supporting this hypothesis by the results they presented on Table 3. Higher percentage of cases for T3-4, N1-3, and stage III was observed from low-risk to high risk. In similar fashion a decrease percentage for T1-2, N0, and stage I-II was observed from low-risk to high risk, supporting by the authors own data the balance between ALC (immunosurveillance) versus AMC (tumor growth).

(4) How the author can prove AMLPS is stable in one case/in one type of AMLPS risk groups. It is mean if we test AMC and ALC several times before operation, do three risk groups change? Please give me some evidence.

(5) In Table 4 and 5, for AMLPS, can author add the comparison between Intermediate-risk and high-risk?

3 References and typesetting were corrected

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

Sincerely yours,

Heung Yeol Kim, MD, PhD
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology,
Kosin University College of Medicine,
34, Amnam-dong, Seo-gu, Busan 602-702,
Republic of Korea.
Fax: +82-51-990-3300
E-mail: hykyale@yahoo.com