

EDITORS IN CHIEF:

Professor Subrata Ghosh and Andrzej Tarnawski

World Journal of Gastroenterology

December 18, 2019

RE: MS No. 52884 "A cancer/testis antigen, Kita-Kyushu lung cancer antigen-1 (KK-LC-1) and ABCD stratification for diagnosing gastric cancers" by A. Shida et al.

Dear Editors:

Thank you for your letter dated December 12, 2019. The evaluations of the two reviewers have encouraged us. We have responded all comments from reviewer 2, performed additional data along with the suggestions and revised the manuscript based on their suggestions. We added the data about expression of KK-LC-1 in each A, B, C and D group by each pathological stage into Table 4. We would like to thank you for allowing us to resubmit the revised manuscript.

I hope that the revised manuscript can again be considered for publication in the Journal. Thank you in advance for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

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For the comments of the reviewer 1 (Reviewer's code: 02739495):

We are grateful to your appreciation of our study.

For the comments of the reviewer 2 (Reviewer's code: 02444931):

We are grateful to your appreciation of our study.

1. Typos in abstract-results

It was our mistake. We corrected “The expression of KK-LC-1 in group C [PG method (-) / H. pylori infection (-)]” into “The expression of KK-LC-1 in group C [PG method **(+)** / H. pylori infection **(+)**]”.

2. About the clinical significances between KK-LC-1 expression in ABCD stratification and stages, and prognosis.

We previously reported no significances between KK-LC-1 expression and clinic-phathological background in gastric cancer (ref. 13 in this manuscript; World J Gastroenterol 2017; 23(46): 8200-8206). Our results in this study was a same. Also about the analysis dividing ABCD stratification, there are no significances. Therefore, we add the result in the last sentence of REUSULTS and table 4 which indicated no significance of KK-LC-1 expression in each ABCD group between each pathological stage. About the prognosis, our colleagues are preparing and will submit as a different article.

3. Reference and Table format

We uploaded the reference No. ~~1XX, XX~~ and ~~3XX~~ into later one. We corrected all tables into three line format.

The critical comments and useful suggestion have helped to improve our paper. We have attempted to answer each of the questions raised.

Thank you in advance for your kind consideration of our revised version.

Sincerely yours,

Takashi Fukuyama

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