### Dear editor,

It is a very good opportunity for us to submit our manuscript to *World Journal of Gastroenterology (WJG)*, and we are very grateful for the opinions of the reviewers and editorial board. We have made several modifications to this manuscript, which are summarized in a point-to-point manner as follows:

The comments from the reviewers:

Reviewer #1: This is a concise letter to the editor, and it is important to know the reply of the authors of the original paper (Ma et al)

We thank a lot for the encouragement from this reviewer.

Reviewer #2: Authors of the letter made a critique about the nomogram constructed by Ma et al. (WJG 27(38): 6465-6475). The contested parts of the article are legitimate, the original nomogram should have considered side, mutation-, MSI/MMR- and resectability status of the tumor. A minor suggestion is that instead of "issue" authors should use "limitation", in my opinion.

The word "issue" had been replaced by the word "limitation" in this letter, as the reviewer advised.

The comments from the editorial service:

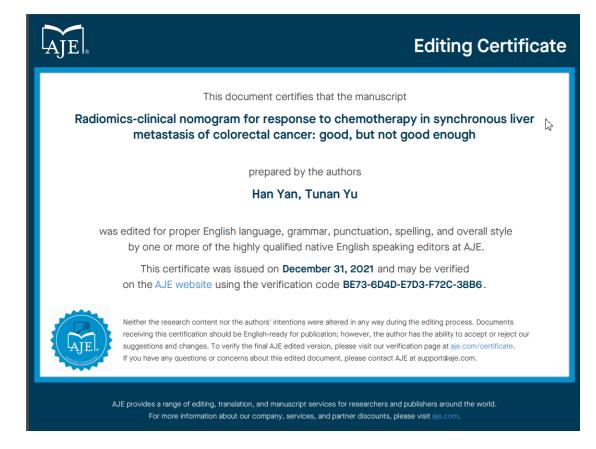
#### (1) Science editor:

This is a letter that critiques the nomogram constructed by Ma et al. (WJG 27(38): 6465-6475). The limitations raised are valid, and raises awareness to readers. Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing) Scientific Quality: Grade B (Very good)

### (2) Company editor-in-chief:

I have reviewed the Peer-Review Report, full text of the manuscript, and the relevant ethics documents, all of which have met the basic publishing requirements of the World Journal of Gastroenterology, and the manuscript is conditionally accepted. I have sent the manuscript to the author(s) for its revision according to the Peer-Review Report, Editorial Office's comments and the Criteria for Manuscript Revision by Authors.

We asked the company of AJE to further modify the language, since Language Quality of this manuscript was Grade B (Minor language polishing). An updated certificate of language was as follows.



Thank you again for the suggestions. Looking forward to hearing from you.

## Sincerely,

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