

Answer to Reviewer

Thank you for your important comments, which were extremely helpful for improving the quality of our manuscript.

1 Peer-review report

Reviewer #1: While I appreciate the effort of the work presented, this article reporting that submucosal invasion of gastric cancer could be predicted by endoscopic observation of background gastritis is unlikely of interest to World J Gastroenterology readers.

The company Editor-in-Chief recommends the manuscript to be published in the World Journal of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy. We decided to submit this article to the World Journal of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy. We believe that this article will be of interest to World J Gastrointestinal Endoscopy readers.

Reviewer #2: The authors in this study evaluated the predicting value of submucosal invasion by the endoscopy-based Kyoto classification of gastritis. The concluded that the enlarged folds of gastritis were associated with submucosal invasion. Preliminary review found that it seems an interesting, very well-prepared manuscript; the results presented are sound, convincing and potentially important. However, I think it is necessary to illustrate how the expert endoscopist determined the fold width based on the EGD images in this retrospective study. The same fold may present different width with different distance between mucosa and endoscopic lens. In general, this paper is suitable for publication in this journal if the authors resolve this problem.

When gastric cancer was detected, biopsy was performed with a biopsy forceps. A closed forceps has a thickness of 2mm, and an opened forceps which has a width of 7mm. The fold width was measured by placing a closed or opened forceps. This point was added into the revised manuscript.

Reviewer #3: No

Thank you very much for your favorable evaluation.

2 Editorial Office's comments

- 1) *Science Editor: 1 Scientific quality: The manuscript describes a retrospective study of the value of the endoscopy-based Kyoto classification of gastritis in predicting submucosal invasion. The topic is within the scope of the WJG. (1) Classification:*

Grade B, Grade C and Grade E; (2) Summary of the Peer-Review Report: This article reporting that submucosal invasion of gastric cancer could be predicted by endoscopic observation of background gastritis is unlikely of interest to World J Gastroenterology readers. Furthermore, a small patient number from a single institution was included and this study could only demonstrate the correlation rather than predicting value. (3) Format: There are 2 tables and 3 figures; (4) References: A total of 42 references are cited, including 22 references published in the last 3 years; (5) Self-cited references: There are 2 self-cited references. 2 Language evaluation: Classification: Grade A, Grade A and Grade C. A language editing certificate issued by Editage was provided. 3 Academic norms and rules: The authors provided the Biostatistics Review Certificate and the Institutional Review Board Approval Form. Written informed consent was waived. No academic misconduct was found by the Google search. 4 Supplementary comments: This is an unsolicited manuscript. No financial support was obtained for the study. 5 Issues raised: Please revise the description of manuscript type (Observation Study has been chosen while submitted) 6 Re-Review: Not required. 7 Recommendation: Rejection

According to the recommendation of the company Editor-in-Chief, we decided to submit this article to the World Journal of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy. Manuscript type was changed from observation study to retrospective study.

3) Company Editor-in-Chief: I recommend the manuscript to be published in the World Journal of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy.

According to your recommendation, we decided to submit this article to the World Journal of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy.