

## Response Letter

Dear Editor:

Thank you very much for your letter and advice. We have revised our manuscript according to the comments raised by the reviewers and would like to re-submit it for your consideration. The amendments are marked with an underline in the revised manuscript. Point by point responses to the comments are listed below in this letter. We hope that the revised manuscript is now acceptable for publication in your journal.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Jun Liu, MD, Professor

Corresponding author

### Replies to comments:

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the reviewers, science editor and company editor-in-chief for the constructive and positive comments.

### Replies to Reviewer 1

1. The reviewer recommends to accept this study for publication after a minor editing.

**Answer:** The manuscript has been checked and corrections have been marked with an underline in the revised manuscript (in the “Abstract” section: paragraph 3; in the “Introduction” section: paragraph 2; in the “Materials and methods” section: paragraph 8 and in the “Results” section: paragraph 1).

### Replies to Reviewer 2

1. The images are informative; however, the images are not in a high-resolution ratio. The authors should provide the images accordingly.

**Answer:** The figures have been updated in a high-resolution ratio and put accordingly into a single PowerPoint file named “71999-Figures.pptx” and uploaded to the file destination of “Image File”. In addition, all figures have also been organized as a compressed file and uploaded it to the file destination of “Supplementary Material”.

2. How about the limit of the study? Please make a short description about it.

**Answer:** corrections have been marked with an underline in the revised manuscript (In the “Discussion” section: the last paragraph).

3. A minor editing is required for the manuscript.

**Answer:** Corrections have been marked with an underline in the revised manuscript (in the “Abstract” section: paragraph 3; in the “Introduction” section: paragraph 2; in the “Materials and methods” section: paragraph 8 and in the “Results” section: paragraph 1).

### **Replies to Science editor**

1. A minor editing is necessary for the manuscript. Some minor spelling errors should be corrected.

**Answer:** The manuscript has been checked and corrections have been marked with an underline in the revised manuscript (in the “Abstract” section: paragraph 3; in the “Introduction” section: paragraph 2; in the “Materials and methods” section: paragraph 8 and in the “Results” section: paragraph 1).

2. The figures should be updated with high resolution ratio images.

**Answer:** The figures have been updated in a high-resolution ratio and organized into a single PowerPoint file named “71999-Figures.pptx” and uploaded to the file destination of “Image File”. In addition, all figures have also been organized as a compressed file and uploaded it to the file destination of “Supplementary Material”.

3. The subtitles in the results section are not clear. The authors should "Bold" the subtitles.

**Answer:** The subtitles in the result section have been corrected in bold and corrections have been marked with an underline in the revised manuscript (in the "Results" section).

### **Replies to Company editor-in-chief**

1. Before final acceptance, uniform presentation should be used for figures showing the same or similar contents; for example, "Figure 1Pathological changes of atrophic gastritis after treatment. A: ...; B: ...; C: ...; D: ...; E: ...; F: ...; G: ...".

**Answer:** Corrections have been marked with an underline in the revised manuscript (in the "Figure Legends" section).

2. Please provide decomposable Figures (in which all components are movable and editable), organize them into a single PowerPoint file.

**Answer:** The decomposable figures had been organized into a single PowerPoint file named "71999-Figures.pptx" and uploaded to the file destination of "Image File". In addition, all figures had been organized as a compressed file and uploaded it to the file destination of "Supplementary Material".