Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Acetic acid - indigo carmine chromoendoscopy for delineating early gastric cancers: its usefulness according to the histologic type

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 12 December 2009

**Reviewer:** Ralf Jakobs

**Reviewer’s report:**

Major compulsory revisions: none

Minor essentials revision:
This is a well-defined report on the use of a special technique of chromoendoscopy combining acetic acid and indigocarmine for the delineation of early gastric cancers.

Methods used are appropriate but authors should more clarify the technical details (e.g., concentration of indigo carmine solution, volume of solution used for chromoendoscopy; type of catheter).

Data seem to be valid and sound and the manuscript is adhering to relevant standards for reporting.

The discussion is focused on chromoendoscopy. In the past two years all of the major endoscopy manufacturers have brought new “virtual “ techniques (e.g., NBI, FICE, I-SCAN) on the market and all are equipped with high resolution video techniques like HDTV-standard. Author should therefore discuss their results in comparison to the meanwhile published reports comparing chromoendoscopy with virtual techniques.

Finally, the authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, the abstract is addressing the content of the study and the writing is acceptable.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**
I declare that I have no competing interests.