Author's response to reviews

Title: Clinicopathologic characteristics and treatment outcomes of hepatoid adenocarcinoma of stomach, a rare but unique subtype of gastric cancer

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Version: 4 Date: 2 May 2011

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Dear Editor-in-Chief

Please find our manuscript entitled “Clinicopathologic characteristics and treatment outcomes of hepatoid adenocarcinoma of stomach, a rare but unique subtype of gastric cancer” which we deeply appreciate your decision to accept publication of our manuscript in the BMC Gastroenterology.

We evaluated clinicopathologic characteristics, treatment outcome, and prognosis in hepatoid adenocarcinoma of stomach. It is a rare subtype of gastric cancer, so there have not been fruitful reports with large number of patients. Furthermore the studies on the treatment pattern and treatment outcome have been rare.

As far as we know, this study presents the first report that focused on response to chemotherapy and treatment outcome of hepatoid adenocarcinoma of stomach.

Interestingly, of total hepatoid adenocarcinoma of stomach patients, 60% of patients were diagnosed with early stage or locally advanced stage, and 47% of them relapsed. All patients with early stage gastric cancer were cured. Therefore, early detection of this type of cancer is also most important to patient prognosis. Though prognosis of patients with metastasis and relapse is known to be poor, findings from our study suggest that it is comparable to that of the usual type of gastric cancer.

We are convinced that this study is valuable and contributive for readers of BMC Gastroenterology to understand the status of clinicopathologic characteristics, treatment outcome, and prognosis of this rare subtype of gastric cancer, hepatoid adenocarcinoma of stomach.

My colleagues and I have not published any related papers from this same study.

This study was partly presented at 2010 Gastrointestinal Cancer Symposium, Orlando, Florida.

All authors have read and approved this manuscript.

All authors do not have any potential conflicts of interest.

This study was supported in part by the Korean Foundation of Liver Research (Grant
2011).

Thank you again for your acceptance to publication our manuscript.

Sincerely yours.

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