Reviewer's report

Title: Modified endoscopic submucosal dissection with enucleation for treatment of gastric subepithelial tumors originating from the muscularis propria layer

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Reviewer: Seok-Reyol Choi

Reviewer's report:

This paper described the Modified endoscopic submucosal dissection used for enucleation of gastric subepithelial tumors originating from the muscularis propria layer. This kind of concept is not noble, but this procedure is not yet widely accepted. Thus, this paper has values to contribute the advent of endoscopic procedure for exploring subepithelial tumors.

I would like to point out three major revisions.

1. Page 7 and Figures. I do not understand the modified ESD exactly. What is the transverse incision exactly? Longitudinal incision and transverse incision makes cross shape incision? The Figure 1d does not show cross-shape incision. I think not a picture but a simple illustration will explain this procedure more properly. Please insert an illustration that explains the modified ESD, especially two incision lines.

2. According to result, authors removed three tumors at fundus. As all endoscopists know, it is not easy to remove EGC and SMT at fundus. Please describe more how to remove those three lesions in method or discussion.

3. One of the important issues in this kind of procedures is that we could not evaluate the resection margin. Practitioners can enucleate the SMT, but they are not able to check whether the resection margin is clear or not pathologically. In this matter, I would like to listen to authors' opinion. So called endoscopic complete enucleation can guarantee pathologic complete resection? Please describe to this in method and discussion.

I raised a few questions to the authors. However, I think that the authors did very good job. They handled subtle big SMTs which might need surgery. They preserved the function of the stomach with successful enucleation of SMTs. Furthermore, they exactly diagnosed the property of tumors.

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