Reviewer’s report

Title: The clinical features and treatment modality of esophageal neuroendocrine tumors: nationwide multicenter study in Korea

Version: 1 Date: 11 March 2014

Reviewer: Moo In Park

Reviewer’s report:

1. Minor Essential Revisions

2. An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

3. Needs some language corrections before being published

4. No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

5. I declare that I have no competing interests

6. Accept after minor essential revisions (which the authors can be trusted to make)

This is a very useful retrospective study evaluating the characteristics of esophageal NET in nationwide study in Korea, but I have a few questions.

1. Nationwide is used in the title. I think nationwide in this study means representative of Korean population. But, your data was not randomly selected from general population. Thus, I think the term nationwide in the title is not appropriate. What do you think about that?

2. In background, you conducted multicenter study to find the accurate incidence rate of esophageal NETs. I don’t think the incidence of esophageal NETs can be obtained in your study. What do you think about that?

3. In endoscopic findings, the tumors exhibited elevated polypoid or nodular elevated, depressed or ulcerated features. Could you add more information of endoscopic findings of esophageal NETs in your study? Could you describe the surface color of tumor in endoscopic findings?

4. How many cases did you get final diagnosis only though endoscopic biopsy?

5. In the discussion section, ref 17 was incited to show the correlation of NET size and patient’s prognosis. As you know, ref 17 deals with rectal carcinoid tumor. I think biological behavior of esophageal NETs may be different from that of rectal NETs. What do you think about that?