Reviewer’s report

Title: Different regression equations relate age to the incidence of stomach cancer in the SEER database for lauren type 1 and lauren Type 2 stomach cancers and for asians and non-asians; these age relationships are the same for men and women.

Version: 2 Date: 24 January 2006

Reviewer: Patricia Tai

Reviewer’s report:

General

This journal is intended for oncologists, so explain more about the statistical methods involved.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

1) Under Model adequacy, explain what is the meaning and use of dffit and Cook’s distance.

2) In Table 1, what is the meaning of Sex (no total) ?

3) In Table 3, R2 should be R square with 2 superscripted.

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

1) In the Title, change “Lauren Type” to “Lauren Types”.

2) Under Data transformation, “Ppreliminary” should be “Preliminary”.

3) Under Final model, put “residual sum of squares” before RSS, and put “main effects” before ME.

4) Under Final model, in Lauren type 2 equation, should be log(ca).

5) For many reference quotes, put comma or full-stop after the reference number, e.g. Levi [13], and Koirea [31].

6) Many Figure legends are missing.

7) The y-axis label in the figures should be log(ca), the “) “ is missing.

8) In Methods, second last sentence of first paragraph: “The two five-year....” should insert the hyphen.
What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

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