Reviewer’s report

**Title:** In situ pepsinogen I production and stepwise progression from normal mucosa, superficial gastritis, atrophic gastritis to gastric cancer

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 7 February 2013

**Reviewer:** Leimin Sun

**Reviewer’s report:**

The study was conducted to determine PGI expression in situ as well as in serum. The question posed by author is well defined. The authors clearly acknowledge published work upon which they are building. The title and abstract accurately convey what has been found.

**Major compulsory Revisions:**

1. The methods to detect H. pylori infection with serum IgG is not appropriate which present previous infection instead of present infection. And also for the HE staining in pathological diagnose, the authors failed to mention where did the sample come from? From which part of the stomach and how much samples were taken for H. pylori detection?

2. As we know that the level of PGI is different between type A and type B GA. The level of PGI in GA group hasn't been described in the manuscript according to the type of GA respectively.

3. The conclusion of in situ PGI staining could help distinguish the benign gastric lesions from the atrophic gastritis and carcinoma in pathological diagnosis are not adequately supported by the data.

4. limitations of the work are not clearly stated.

**Minor Essential Revisions,**

1. Page 9 line 12, spelling mistake

**Level of interest:** An article of limited interest

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.