Reviewer's report

Title: Evaluation and clinical significance of the Stomach Age model for evaluating aging of the stomach----A multicenter study in China

Version: 3 Date: 31 October 2013

Reviewer: Junko Aida

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Major Compulsory Revisions
I have pointed out that the authors didn’t describe which part of the mucosa they analyzed. Then they answered they examined whole mucosa. They used biopsy specimens for analysis, and used whole mucosa. Usual biopsy specimens from stomach of many patients are never uniform, and various composition of many cell groups (foveolar epithelium, foveolar neck, proprial glands, fibroblasts, endothelium, and so on). So I have considered that they should describe the composition of the specimens. I can’t understand why they use heterogeneous whole specimens and two person can. They commented that they divided all slides into 5 regions automatically by the software, which ensured the whole tissue was measured. But they don’t show the definitions of 5 regions.

Unfortunately, I can’t accept their FISH data by the described method, in a point of the reliability.

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

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

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

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