Reviewer's report

**Title:** Laparoscopic versus open wedge resection for gastrointestinal stromal tumors of the stomach: a single-center 8-year retrospective cohort study of 156 patients with long-term follow-up

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 5 August 2014

**Reviewer:** Hirokazu Kiyozaki

**Reviewer's report:**

Major compulsory revisions

In this manuscript, the authors reported laparoscopic versus open wedge resection for gastrointestinal stromal tumors of the stomach: a single-center 8-year retrospective cohort study of 156 patients with long-term follow-up. This article is interesting, but it has some points that require further attention as described below.

1. Table 1: hematocrit#hemoglobin

2. The tumor size in the LWR group was smaller than that in the OWR group. The follow-up period in the LWR group was shorter than that of in the ORW. However, the selection criteria was not described in this manuscript. The authors should clarify the selection criteria in the manuscript.

3. Letters of all figures were somewhat blurry. The authors should make clear figure images.

4. Sample sizes are not so large. The authors may use non-parametrical statistical methods (e.g. Mann- Whitney U test) in stead of Student’s t test. A consultation with the statistician may be need.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**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