Reviewer's report

Title: Duodenal gastrointestinal stromal tumors: clinicopathological characteristics, surgery and long-term outcome

Version: 2
Date: 23 June 2015

Reviewer: Luigi Marano

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions

Comment 1:
Page 3, line 89-90. Authors state that only a limited of studies involving DGIST have been published. This is not the truth, since several reports have proposed to address clinical and diagnostic characteristics, as well as prognostic factors and therapeutic options for these rare duodenal tumors. At the best of my knowledge these are the most relevant papers to this address:


The Authors should re-elaborate the sentence and the reference list has to be implemented.

Comment 2:
Page 2, lines 76-86. It is not clear if the Authors refer to gastrointestinal stromal tumors or to duodenal gastrointestinal stromal tumors. Please rephrased the sentences more clearly.

Comment 3:
Page 4, lines 155-165. This paragraph is not so useful, because it reported results shown in Table 1.

Comment 4:
Page 5, lines 170-175. It is not clear why of the 34 patients with “high risk of recurrence” were treated only 16 patients. Moreover should be specify why one of the 15 patients underwent to Sunitinib treatment; the treatment scheme should also be specified. Please provide me appropriate justification.

Comment 5:
Page 5, lines 203-208. It is not clear how many patients were included in the follow up period until July 2014. Please specify it.

Comment 6:
All the operations were conducted in open surgery. Please provide appropriate justification since segmental duodenal resection can be performed by means of laparoscopic s well as robotic approaches.

Comment 7:
This paper needs immense editing before publication in any journal. I found this paper quite difficult to follow largely due to problems in English.

Minor Essential Revisions

Comment 1:
Page 2, line 72-73. Authors report the risk stratification by Fletcher et al. It should be added the “low risk” category according to the above mentioned prognostic classification.

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

**Quality of written English:** Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests