Reviewer's report

Title: Efficacy of palliative radiotherapy for gastric bleeding in patients with unresectable advanced gastric cancer: a retrospective cohort study

Version: 2 Date: 24 February 2015

Reviewer: Akira Tsuburaya

Reviewer's report:

The objective and clinical question of the paper are important, and the endpoints are appropriate. Most methods and results are appropriate and well done. According to recent publication, largest study for palliative radiotherapy for GC, including 103 patients with bleeding, Advanced Symptomatic Gastric Cancer in the Modern Era; Tey J. et al's; Medicine, November 2014, should be included in reference and discussion. The major The followings are my comments.

Major Compulsory Revisions
1. No need for major revision.

Minor Essential Revisions
1. Methods, Patients, 1st paragraph: The two patients should be included in analysis, or add no hemorrhagic shock before RT in the inclusion criteria.
2. Methods, analysis, 2nd paragraph: The endpoint, hemostasis is almost well defined; however, no need for gastroscopy may be included in the definition as in Tey J. et al's recent paper.
3. Methods, limitations of the work: The result of time to hemostasis seems to be too short, which might mislead the readers. Most of the patients received other modalities as described in treatment results, or gastroscopic procedure, it is better to be included.

Discretionary Revisions
1. Table 2. The radiation dose better to be classified by median BED = biologically effective dose

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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