

RE: No.: 81563

February 23, 2023

Professor Peter Schemmer, FACS, MD, PhD,
Chairman, Full Professor, Professor,
Department of General, Visceral- and Transplant Surgery,
The Medical University of Graz,
Graz 8036, Styria,
Austria

Dear Prof. Peter Schemmer

Thank you for your letter dated February 16, 2023, regarding our manuscript entitled “Rikkunshito increases appetite by enhancing gastrointestinal and incretin hormone levels in patients who underwent pylorus-preserving pancreaticoduodenectomy: a retrospective study” submitted to *the World Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery* (No. 81563). We were pleased that both the Editorial Board and the reviewer found our data found interesting and we appreciate their helpful comments. We have addressed the concerns of the reviewer in the new version of our manuscript. Enclosed please find the revised manuscript and figures. The following is a point-by-point response to the suggestion and queries of the reviewer.

Thank you for the opportunity to incorporate your useful suggestions and those of the reviewers into the revision of this manuscript. We hope that you now find this study suitable for publication in *the World Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery*.

Sincerely

Hiroshi Kono

Reviewer #1

We were pleased that the reviewer found our manuscript well-organized, coherent, and concise, and we appreciate your heart-warming comments.

We have revised and added the new references to reflect the highlights of the latest cutting-edge research result.

Editorial Office's comments

Science Editor:

The manuscript has been peer-reviewed, and it is ready for the first decision. We were pleased that the reviewer found our data merit.

Company Editor-in-Chief:

We were pleased that the reviewer found our data merit.

Major comment:

1. The Editor-in-Chief commented that the manuscript is to be published in the World Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery. Before final acceptance, when revising the manuscript, the author must supplement and improve the highlights of the latest cutting-edge research results, thereby further improving the content of the manuscript. We agreed with the comment. Accordingly, we have revised and added the latest references to reflect the latest cutting-edge research results in the revised manuscript (please see the new references in the revised manuscript).