Dear editors and reviewers,

Thank you very much for your email dated 15th March, 2024 enclosing the reviewer’s comments for our manuscript entitled “Endoscopic ultrasound features of rectal melanoma: a case report and literature review”. We also thank the editorial office for the detailed comments to us. Your comments are valuable and helpful for revising and improving our paper as well as having important guiding significance to our future research.

Overall, we have carefully evaluated the reviewers’ thoughtful comments, responded to these suggestions point-by-point, and revised the manuscript accordingly. All changes made to the text are in yellow so that they may be easily identified. We sincerely hope this manuscript will be acceptable to be published on World Journal of Clinical Cases.

Thank you very much for all your help and looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Best regards
Sincerely yours
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Response to editor:

1) Language certificate: For manuscripts submitted by non-native speakers of English, please provided language certificate by professional English language editing companies.

We have provided the language certificate by professional English language editing companies.

2) Grant application form(s): A copy of the full approved grant application form(s), consisting of the information section and body section, should be provided to the BPG in PDF format.

We have provided the full approved grant application form to the BPG in PDF format.

3) References 35-38 did not appear in the text, please check.

We have checked that the references 35-38 are in the text.

4) Please revise the legend of Figure 2 because it is too simple (Figure 2 Image).

We have revised the legend of Figure 2 in the revised manuscript.

Response to Reviewer #1:

Comments: This is a rare and valuable case report described primary mucosal melanoma. However, there are several problems with this paper that should be corrected.
1) In this case, a bulging tumor was identified endoscopically. The endoscopic findings are important to differentiate between adenocarcinoma and melanoma but are not presented as a Figure. Please add a Figure of the endoscopic findings.

Thanks for your suggestion. We have added a Figure of the endoscopic findings (Figure 1) in the revised manuscript.

2) In this case, surgery was performed. The results of the surgical procedure should be described. In particular, the macroscopic and microscopic pathology findings of the surgical specimen and the final TNM classification should be described.

Thanks for your suggestion. Since the patient was first diagnosed in our department of gastroenterology, this paper focused on describing the endoscopic and endoscopic features of rectal melanoma, as well as the diagnostic results. But later the patient completed the surgery in an outside hospital, and the relevant information has been added (Line 123-125). As the TNM stage of rectal mucosal melanoma has not yet been established, there is no relevant information in this paper.

3) In the OUTCOME AND FOLLOW-UP section it is stated that there were no recurrences or metastases in the follow up period. It should state how long the follow-up period was.

As suggested by the reviewer, we have added a description of the length of follow-up, such that “No local lymph node metastasis was observed either surgically or pathologically. The patient underwent surgical treatment and was followed up for 2 years. There was no recurrence or metastasis.” (Line 128-130).

4) The discussion section should focus on this case and its associated content. Since this case is an MMG, descriptions of MMHN and MMFG are redundant.

Thanks for your suggestion. We have deleted the descriptions of MMHN and MMFG in the discussion section in the revised manuscript.