



## BAISHIDENG PUBLISHING GROUP INC

8226 Regency Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588, USA

Telephone: +1-925-223-8242 Fax: +1-925-223-8243

E-mail: bpgoffice@wjgnet.com http://www.wjgnet.com

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Over-the-scope-clip closure of long lasting gastro cutaneous fistula after PEG tube removal in immunocompromised patients: a single center case series

Heinrich Henriette, Gubler Christoph, Valli Piero V

Responses to the reviewers

### Reviewer 1:

We thank the reviewer for his indepth comment on our manuscript.

1. We have mentioned gluing in the manuscript and have amended the references.
  2. We have amended the section on evidence for GCF formation in the text and thank the reviewer for this comment.
  3. The result section now features the rate of GCF after PEG tube removal.
- 4-6: We thank the reviewer for his comments and have amended the dicussion according to the suggestions made.

### Reviewer 2:

We thank the reviewer for his assessment of our manuscript. We are pleased that a native speaker rates the quality of our manuscript as suitable for priority publishing.

批注 [hh1]: Ok, konnte ich mir nicht verkneifen. Müssen wir vielleicht löschen.

### Reviewer 3:

We sincerely thank the reviewer for his thorough assessment of our manuscript. We have meticoulsly screenend the manuscript for adapting and introducing consistent abbreviations.

Keywords have been added in the correct location of the manuscript.

We have substituted the term „ polymorbid“ for the term „with severe / multiple comorbidities“.

The first sentence of the „patients and materials“ section was adapted according to the reviewer’s suggestions.

We have added complications to the dicussion section and have erased the redundant sentence.

In the methods, we have now stated the unit of measurement of OTSC clips.

We have relabeled our „ young“ patient cohort to „middle aged patients“ throughout the manuscript.

We now discuss possible comclusions and have toned down our statement on complications.

Tables and figures are now being provided separatly and have been adapted to your suggestions. Tables and Figures Table 1 is incomplete. The column duration of PEG treatment.

We have again checked and expanded our references according to your suggestions and thank you for your evaluation of our manuscript.

**Reviewer 4:**

We thank the reviewer for his substantial and constructive review of our manuscript. We have given more technical information in the methods section on OTSC deployment, overtube usage, size choice, etc). We have reworked our references as well. We have also elaborated on the fact that the OTSC anchor should only be used in fibrotic tissue as well as possible removal scenarios for the OTSC.

**Reviewer 5:**

We thank the reviewer for his assessment of our manuscript. We have amended the expression „polymorbid“ to patients with multiple comorbidities.

We also comment on OVESCO clip type and have added a section on the cosmetic result.

We also thank the reviewer for giving the excellent suggestion to discuss the possibility of electrocautery. We have added this to our revised manuscript.

Also have we modified our statement on complications.