

February 4, 2015

Dear Editor,

Thank you for offering us the possibility to revise our manuscript, and also thank the reviewers for there valuable comments.

We believe we have sufficiently addressed the issues raised by the referees.

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 15132 - Review.docx).

Title: CURRENT STATUS OF LAPAROENDOSCOPIC RENDEZVOUS IN THE TREATMENT OF CHOLELITHIASIS WITH CONCOMITANT CHOLEDOCHOLITHIASIS

Authors: Ioannis Baloyiannis, George Tzovaras

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy

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The first referee has virtually no suggestions apart from linguistic improvement (see below).

As regards to the second referee's comments:

1. An effort to improve the manuscript from the linguistic point of view has been made.
2. As this review is not about the management of choledocholithiasis in general but rather a focused one on this particular technique of laparoendoscopic rendez vous, all major studies on the technique, especially RCTs and meta-analyses have been included. In addition, we have included a recent meta-analysis of 9 trials published by Alexakis et al, where several one- vs two stage laparoscopic and/or endoscopic options, including LERV, have been compared in the treatment of patients with CBD stones. In this revised form of the manuscript, a more recent relevant trial has also been added.
3. Surprisingly, the reviewer has raised the issue of plagiarism. We would not consider as plagiarism the use of phrases or paragraphs from our own original work.
4. According to our viewpoint on the topic, as previously explained (#2 response,) the references have been restricted mainly to laparoendoscopic rendez vous and include both old as well as the most recent ones.
5. The study in SLEPT has been included in the manuscript, as suggested.

6. A brief discussion about the laparoscopic CBDE as an one stage option to the treatment of choledocholithiasis has already been made. However, there is no RCT comparing LCBDE to LERV to be included in the manuscript.

Thank you very much.

Yours sincerely,

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