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Title: Clinical outcomes and ergonomics analysis of three laparoscopic techniques for Hirschsprung's Disease

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Dear Reviewers,

First of all, we would like to praise and thank you for your supports and encouragements. We are very impressed by your laborious work and well organized system. To be honest, your comments have been very useful and vital for our manuscript. We hope that our revision will be to the upper most satisfaction. We are sorry for the delay of the revised manuscript submission.

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 15865-review.doc).

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format has been updated.

2 The title and abstract have been changed according to the recommendation of the BPG's Revision Policies for Retrospective Study. Our previous title "**Laparoscopic endorectal pull-through for Hirschsprung's Disease: comparison of conventional laparoscopic, single-incision laparoscopic and hybrid single-incision laparoscopic**

approaches” has been replaced by “Clinical outcomes and ergonomics analysis of three laparoscopic techniques for Hirschsprung's Disease”

3 The manuscript has been revised for grammatical and linguistic errors.

4 A major revision of the manuscript was done, in order to satisfy the editor's and reviewers' recommendations. The changes have been highlighted in green.

5 References and typesetting were corrected.

6 The figures have been adjusted to the proper size and proper labeling.

7. Our revised manuscript has been CrossCheck.

8 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer:

(1) To the Reviewer 00505481.

Thank you very for your acceptance and good comments of this manuscript. However, a major revision was made and we believe that the revised manuscript will be more interesting. We hope that you will agree with this revision. Thank you.

(2) To the Reviewer 02554620

Thank you very much for appreciating our efforts to contribute this paper. Your comments have been very useful to us. To answer your questions, we made a major revision of this paper and focused to specific objectives. The originality of this paper is based on the clinical outcomes and ergonomics analysis; regarding the age, transitional zone and cosmetic results of the three laparoscopic procedures that we have been using in our pediatric department to treat Hirschsprung's disease. The only difference among these procedures was the location of the working port, which affects the ergonomics of the instruments and the cosmetic results. To preserve the cosmetic advantage of single-incision laparoscopy procedure (SILP) and the ergonomic advantage of conventional laparoscopy procedure (CLP), we developed the hybrid single-incision laparoscopy procedure H-SILP. With the proper training, the ergonomics challenges were overcome and insignificant operative times were registered for the general operative time, the patients <1 year old and the short segment HD patients. However, significant operative times were registered for patients >1 year ($P < 0.05$ vs SILP) and for long segment HD

patients ($p < 0.05$ vs SILP). Therefore, the H-SILP is more convenient for patients >1 years old and long segment HD in patients. These points have been discussed in the discussion section. We hope that you will be satisfied by our answers and will find to the revise manuscript fruitful. Thank you.

(3) To the Reviewer 02456643

We thank you for your acceptance of this paper and we value very much your comments and suggestions. The whole manuscript has been revised for grammatical and linguistic errors. The repeated sentences have been corrected. The exclusion criteria of the patients has been removed from the Discussion and placed in the Methods section. The numbers of patients with transitional zone in the descending colon between the groups have been described more clearly in the methods section. The information about the post operative pain has been removed. The data in the table has been corrected. We used a trocarless instrument in the hybrid version for cosmetic reasons; we described the answer in the discussion section and in the Table 1. We were very deceived that we were not able to properly describe the age and transition zone related aspect of our study in the manuscript. But in the revised manuscript, we tried our best to explain the relationship between the age, transition zone and the desired cosmetic result regarding to the different approaches with the significant results. We hope that that we have answered your questions and the requested corrections were done properly. Thank you.

(4) To the Reviewer 00041966

We thank you for your valuable analysis and comments on our manuscript. We definitely agree with you for the throughout revision. The abstract has been added to the revised manuscript. The introduction has been revised. The purpose of this study was to report the clinical outcomes and ergonomics analysis by comparing of the results of the 3 different laparoscopic procedures, especially related to the age, transitional zone and cosmetic result. The specific time of conducting these procedures and exclusion criteria have been added in the Patients & Methods section. The characteristics descriptions of the patients and follow-up criteria have been moved to

the Patients & Methods section. The reasons for choosing the type of operation and the experience of surgeons performing the operations have been clarified in the discussion section. The Results Section has been modified according to your advice and the main important points have been described. Reference for the Manchester Scar Scale has been added. The treatment of the patient with anastomotic leakage has been described in the result section. This study was not designed to compare the post-operative pain, as you wisely pointed us, thank you. The comments about the post-operative pain and the information on patient's exclusion have been removed from the discussion section. Finally, the Discussion was focused mainly on the results obtained and comparison with the literature. Once again we thank you and hope that we made the necessary modifications and corrections.

Thank you again for reviewing our manuscript for the World Journal of Gastroenterology and we hope for a positive feedback.

Sincerely yours,

Dr Tajammool Hussein Aubdoollah, MD

With the compliments of Prof Shao-tao Tang, MD, PhD

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