

Su-Xin Gou, Science Editor, Editorial Office  
World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS-1725  
Colorectal anastomotic leakage

9 Jan 2013

Dear Editor,

We would like to thank Science Editor and the Reviewers for the effort to critically review our editorial ESPS-1725 "Colorectal Anastomotic Leakage". We have read your letter and we share their opinion on the topics that were put forward. The manuscript has been revised and the revisions are listed in this letter and underlined in the manuscript.

**Reviewer 1**

No revisions were suggested

**Reviewer 2**

Some information should be presented in visual form.

Two figures and a table were added on the following topics:

Data from the Dutch Surgical Colorectal Audit (Table 1. *Italic fonts*)

Endoluminal sealing of colorectal anastomosis (Figure 1. *Italic fonts*)

The clinical algorithm as proposed in the Dutch Leakage Score (Figure 2. *Italic fonts*)

Legend to the figure was added after the reference section (*Italic fonts*)

More details should be included about the scoring system and in the discussion more information should be added on using the score to intervene in high risk patients.

As mentioned above, a figure on the Dutch Leakage Score is added. Furthermore, in the section "Early detection", more information on the score is added and comments are added about the clinical application of the score system (*Italic fonts*).

Outline of "best practice" to help practicing surgeons maintain the lowest rates of anastomotic leakage.

Conclusion was adapted (*Italic fonts*).

All revisions as put forward by the editor have been executed. Except for the addition of another 20 references to get to the proposed number of 45. This was approved by Jin-Wei Lang, Vice - Director, by email.

We thank you for taking time to evaluate our manuscript, which has been checked a second time by a native English speaker.

Sincerely,

Freek Daams  
Misha Luyer  
Johan Lange