

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS



April 28, 2015

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: ESPS Manuscript NO: 17721-review.doc).

Title: Management and outcome of recurrent gallstone ileus: A systematic review.

Author: Shovkat Ahmad Mir, Zeiad Hussain, Christine Ann Davey, Glenn Vincent Miller, Srinivas Chintapatla

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology Surgery*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 17721

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

1. Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

(1) Comments from Reviewer 1

(1) Authors indicate the systemic review about the patients with gall stone ileus between 1912 to 2013. Recently, surgical technique and per-operative management are made remarkable progress. I think the authors should a summary of recent cases against old cases.

We found this suggestion very helpful. The search the time period has been extended to April 2015. A subgroup analysis of last 25 years has been done and included in results.

(2) Author should draw some lines properly in PRISMA Flow Diagram.

Uploading the file resulted in loss of formatting this has been addressed

(3) The number of Table is many. Author should reduce the number of Table, if possible. This has been reduced from nine tables to three tables.

(4) Author should write the manuscript following the guidelines and form of this journal - Done

(2) Comments from Reviewer 2

1.The author should explain in details why the mortality of the Enterolithotomy only was much higher than the Single Stage Surgery, which seems paradoxical in clinical practice.

There has been an addition in terms of updating the time period to 2015 and addition of a subset analysis of the last 25 years which has showed improvement in the mortality of enterolithotomy which is in keeping with current clinical practice. This has been explained in the discussion : Pg19.

2.The advantage or disadvantage of the staged elective cholecystectomy and repair of the biliary-enteric fistula compared with Single Stage Surgery and Enterolithotomy only should be stated in the discussion part and the author should make it clear why few patients underwent staged elective cholecystectomy

and repair of the biliary-enteric fistula. The advantages and disadvantages of staged versus enterolithotomy have been detailed in the discussion; Pg 20. This review is essentially a case report review over a long period of time and to ascribe reasoning as to why only few patients had a staged repair will be conjectural rather than factual.

3.Many of the included cases are out-of-date compared with the improvement of surgical techniques and perioperative management, I recommend that patients in the last two decades should be separately analyzed. This has been done and subset analysis of patients from last 25 years has been done

4.The last search date was May 2013. The author can conduct an updated database search. Updated search carried out till April 2015 and results updated

5.In your PRISMA flow diagram, "Records excluded as did not meet the inclusion criteria (n= 615)", that is you excluded 615 Records only by reading their title? Also, the 3 literature reviews including 7 cases might cause a duplication in calculating with other original case-reports. Summary of all the records were read and exclusions were based on summary and not on reading title. This has now been made clearer in the PRISMA and the text. The review articles clearly elucidated the cases included and the individual authors cases were clearly described, all efforts were taken to prevent duplication.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology Surgery*

Sincerely yours,

Chinta

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