

14th September 2015

Dear Jing Yu, Editor of *'World Journal of Gastroenterology'*,

Re: Manuscript number 19026, "Effect of intraperitoneal local anesthetic on pain characteristics after laparoscopic cholecystectomy"

We sincerely thank you and the members of the Editorial Board of *'World Journal of Gastroenterology'* for taking precious time to review our paper. We have made some corrections in the manuscript after going over comments of the members of the Editorial Board. We highlighted the modifications made to the original document by using **red colored text**. The changes are summarized below

Reviewer 1

1. The title should be no more than 12 words.

Our response: According to your comment, we reduced the number of words of the title to 11.

2. Please correct Abstract in the Methods section with a proper syntax. The preposition "as" has to be changed with a more appropriate word: "with placebo or nothing (in) as intraperitoneal administration...", same in the complete manuscript.

Our response: We revised the manuscript according to your comments. Moreover, according to the editor's comment, this revised manuscript was corrected by a professional English language editing company.

3. In the same section, before the abbreviation "CL", the complete meaning has to be written.

Our response: Thank you for your comment. We revised the manuscript by describing the complete meaning before the abbreviation. **(Aim section in the Abstract)**

4. Please specify a primary time point for pain evaluation in the Results section of the Abstract.

Our response: Thank you for your considerate comment. Included studies evaluated pain after LC at multiple time points, in which numerous interventions were involved. If these outcomes were analyzed at each time point, the possibility of type I error would be increased. In order to avoid the inflation of type I error, we combined pain outcomes at multiple time points and performed analysis using the pooled combined outcomes. We had described this in the statistical analysis of Materials and Methods section. **(From line 11 to line 15 on page 8, Materials and Methods section)** Also we added this in the Methods section of the Abstract. **(Methods section in the Abstract)**

5. A Citation after Core Tip must be addressed as required in the "Instruction for Authors". The citation contains, authors' names and title, For example, an article by Jae Moon Yoon, Ki Young Son, Chun Sick Eom, Daniel Durrance, Sang Min Park will be written as Yoon JM, Son KY, Eom CS, Durrance D, Park SM. Preexisting diabetes mellitus increases the risk of gastric cancer: A meta-analysis.

Our response: We added a citation after Core Tip according to your comment.

6. In the first paragraph of the Introduction, the fourth reference It is repeated twice just at the end. Please correct the references to avoid this kind of redundancy.

Our response: Thank you for your comment. According to your comment, we deleted the redundant reference. **(Line 11 on page 5 in the Introduction section)**

7. There is irregularity in the presentation forms of P values in all manuscript, with the number of spaces.

Our response: We unified the presentation forms of P values throughout the manuscript.

8. In the Discussion section, in the fourth paragraph, there is an error in the spelling of Valsalva. Please correct it properly.

Our response: We revised the spelling according to your comment. **(Line 7 in the Discussion**

section on page 13)

9. When the conclusion of the discussion within sets, try to include measurement time information regarding the variable pain at resting and dynamic state.

Our response: We sincerely thank for your considerate comment. As we answered for your 4th comment, we combined pain outcomes at multiple time points and performed analysis using the pooled combined outcomes.

10. The Journal Title has to be written in its abbreviated form (as shown in PubMed). Please omit the place/city of publication if it is a journal reference, like in reference 1.

Our response: We revised references according to authors' instruction. **(References section)**

11. Please clarify the number in parenthesis references in Tables 2-6, in the "Study Name" column. Detailed legends should not be included under tables, instead having the information presented in the main text where applicable; the information should complement, but not duplicate the text. Use one horizontal line under the title, a second under the column headings, and a third below the Table to be above any footnotes. Vertical line and italics should be omitted.

Our response: Thank you for your comment. The study of Ratzell et al, reference 24, contained two independent investigations, and each was eligible for our inclusion criteria. Thus, we yielded two sub-studies from Ratzell's study, which were presented as Ratzell *et al*(1) and Ratzell *et al*(2) in Table 1. Also in Figures, studies which contained sub-studies more than one were classified as the number in the parenthesis such as Louizos 2005 (1) and Louizos 2005 (2) or Yeh 2014 (1) and Yeh 2014 (2), etc. According to your comment, in order to clarify the identification of included studies in the Study Name column of Figure 2 to 7, we added the reference number as follows: 'First author's name'_'Publication year'_[Reference number]. **(Figure 2 to 7)** Additionally, we carefully checked Table 1 according to your instruction.

Reviewer 2

1. The English of this paper needs polishing in some aspects

Our response: Thank you for your comment. This revised manuscript was corrected by a professional English language editing company. I provided the certificate of that company.

2. In your discussion part you indicated "IPLA did not significantly reduce parietal pain in present review". This result was not identical to some research. But you did not analyse the possible reason which needs discussion.

Our response: Thank you for your constructive comment. We explained the possible reason regarding our result that IPLA did not significantly reduce parietal pain after laparoscopic cholecystectomy. **(From line 23 to line 26 on page 12 in the Discussion section)**

We hope the revised manuscript will better meet the requirements of *'World Journal of Gastroenterology'* for publication. Again, we are most grateful for the constructive review by members of Editorial Board of *'World Journal of Gastroenterology'*.

Sincerely yours,

Hyun Kang, M.D., Ph.D., M.P.H.

Associate Professor

Department of Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine

Chung-Ang University College of Medicine

224-1 Heukseok-ro, Dongjak-gu

Seoul, 156-755, Republic of Korea

Tel: +82-2-6299-2571, 2579, 2586

Fax: +82-2-6299-2585

E-mail: roman00@naver.com