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**Title:** Clinical Impact of self-expanding metal stents (SEMS) in patients with malignant colorectal obstruction: A systematic review and meta-analysis

**Authors List:** Nirav Thosani, Subhas Banerjee, Vikesh Khanijow, Bhavana Rao, Priyanka Priyanka, Atilla Ertan and Sushovan Guha

**Correspondence To:** Nirav Thosani, MD, MHA, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, University of Texas Health Science Center; 4.234 Medical School Building, 6431 Fannin Street, Houston, TX ; Phone: 713.500. 6686; Fax: 713.500.6699; Email: Nirav.Thosani@uth.tmc.edu or ncthosani@gmail.com

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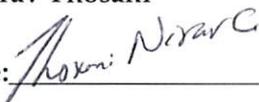
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Name: Nirav Thosani

Signature:  Date: 08/14/2015

Name: Subhas Banerjee

Signature:  Date: 08/18/2015



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Name: Vikesh Khanijow

Signature: 

Date: 08/14/2015

Name: Bhavana Rao

Signature: 

Date: 08/14/2015

Name: Priyanka Priyanka

Signature: 

Date: 08/14/2015

Name: Atilla Ertan

Signature: 

Date: 08/14/2015

Name: Sushovan Guha

Signature: 

Date: 08/14/2015

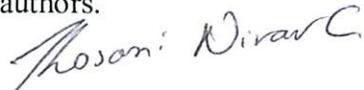
Lesley A Anderson, Dr.  
Giuseppe Biondi-Zoccai, MD  
Editors-in-Chief  
World Journal of Meta-analysis

July 31, 2015

Re: Conflict of Interest: “Clinical Impact of self-expanding metal stents (SEMS) in patients with malignant colorectal obstruction: A systematic review and meta-analysis”

Dear Editors,

This paper is not funded by any grant/support. No potential conflict of interest exists among the authors.



Thank You  
Nirav Thosani  
MD MHA

Dated  
07/31/2015

Lesley A Anderson, Dr.  
Giuseppe Biondi-Zoccai, MD  
Editors-in-Chief  
World Journal of Meta-analysis

July 31, 2015

Re: Data sharing: "Clinical Impact of self-expanding metal stents (SEMS) in patients with malignant colorectal obstruction: A systematic review and meta-analysis"

Dear Editors,

This is a review from already published data and data is publicly available. All the published data had been appropriately cited in the paper. No additional data is available.



Thank You  
Nirav Thosani  
MD, MHA

Dated  
07/31/2015

Lesley A Anderson, Dr.  
Giuseppe Biondi-Zoccai, MD  
Editors-in-Chief  
World Journal of Meta-analysis

July 31, 2015

Re: Biostatistician review: “Clinical Impact of self-expanding metal stents (SEMS) in patients with malignant colorectal obstruction: A systematic review and meta-analysis”

Dear Editors,

I have reviewed the statistical section & results of the manuscript “Clinical Impact of self-expanding metal stents (SEMS) in patients with malignant colorectal obstruction: A systematic review and meta-analysis”. The primary outcome of interest in this manuscript is to evaluate endoscopically placed SEMS technique. Parameters studied in this technique were technical & clinical success rate, rate of occurrence of adverse events and rate of need for re-interventions.

We used the DerSimonian-Laird random effects model to pool the data across the studies and to obtain overall estimates (in percentages) and the 95% confidence intervals (CIs). Statistical heterogeneity among studies was evaluated by using the Cochran Q statistic and quantified by  $I^2$  statistics.

In my opinion the data analysis appears appropriate for the data and hypothesis evaluated in the manuscript. Kindly let me know if you have any questions or concerns in this regard.

Thank You  
Priyanka Priyanka  
MPH

Dated  
07/31/2015