

July 21st, 2015

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 19809-revised manuscript.docx).

**Title:** Endoscopic stenting for inoperable malignant biliary obstruction: a systematic review and meta-analysis

**Authors:** Leonardo Zorrón Cheng Tao Pu, Eduardo Guimarães Hourneaux de Moura, Wanderley Marques Bernardo, Felipe Iankelevich Baracat, Ernesto Quaresma Mendonça, André Kondo, Gustavo Oliveira Luz, Carlos Kiyoshi Furuya, Everson Luiz de Almeida Artifon

**Name of Journal:** *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 19809

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers. All of the revisions made to the revised manuscript were addressed and are highlighted in the updated version (green color text). You will find an extra author for this revised version. I am introducing this new author because he was of great importance in the revision of the article, therefore we would be most pleased if his inclusion could be made. The specific points of reviewer 00070062 were also highlighted in the updated version and are mentioned below:

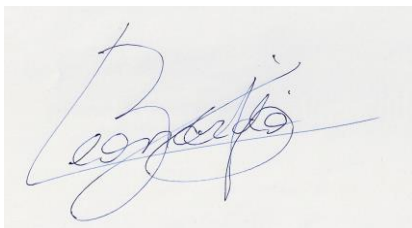
1. Data about survival included in the introduction, with new references;
2. Detailed data about search strategy was moved to the *Supplementary Material*;
3. Detailed data about search findings was moved to the *Supplementary Material* and the general information about the results of the search was placed in the Methods section;
4. In order to address this bias the information about survival was divided between MPBO and MDBO. As pancreatic cancer can only be a cause of MDBO, we expect to deliver more consistent evidence of the difference;
5. Modifications in *table 1* was performed as indicated. Regarding the types of

- metastasis, there were 5 papers (Moses et al. 2013; Mukai et al. 2013; Soderlund et al. 2006; Katsinelos et al. 2006; Prat et al. 1998) that informed metastasis as causes of biliary obstruction and these data was included in Results Section on page 11;
6. The tables were formatted from the most recent to the oldest paper, as suggested by reviewer 00070062. We also moved the less important tables to the supplementary material;
  7. The graphs of the secondary outcomes costs and time of patency were deleted and replaced by the tables that originated them;
  8. The survival outcome was divided in MDBO and MPDO intending to also separate the causes of obstruction, that are usually different between these sites.

The model passed by the editor was also of great help in optimizing the format of the paper. We compared the full article and made the modifications at the parts suitable aiming to lessen the most any differences.

The authors declare a low similarity index in the Crosscheck analysis, the majority of them specified and cited in the reference list.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Leonardo Zorrón', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

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