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Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 20299

Manuscript Type: Editorial

Answering reviewers

Answering Reviewers:

Dear Sir or Madame,

We would like to thank you for reviewing the manuscript entitled “**Complete Mesocolic Excision (CME): Techniques and Outcomes**” and providing insightful comments. Please find below responses to the reviewer comments:
CME was not first introduced, but first published in 2008.

Changed

In the surgical technique chapter for open surgery I miss what to do for tumors in the left part of the transverse colon.

Is already mentioned as “cancer located left of the middle colic artery”

And in the chapter on laparoscopic surgery I miss all the transverse cancers.

Added. Page 9

Should they be operated laparoscopic or not. I miss a discussion regarding if laparoscopic CME is as good as open.

Added. Page 14

reference 15, 20 and 21 is essentially the same patients and should not be quoted as 3 different patient material.

Comment

Reference 26 is only T1 and T2 and the authors should comment on if the survival difference is only a stage migration.

Comment page 11

In reference 21 there is a better disease free survival, but not a different overall survival, the authors should comment on that.

Comment page 12

And last; CME is two parts; complete mesocolic excision and central ligation. Is it possible that the first part is more important than the other (as possible shown by West), or are both parts equally important. The authors should comment on that

Comment page 13

Kind regards,

Nikoletta Dimitriou