December 15, 2017

Re: Response to Reviewer's comment for manuscript number 37119, entitled "Confocal Endomicroscopy and Cyst Fluid Molecular Analysis: Comprehensive Evaluation of Pancreatic Cysts"

Dear Editors,

On behalf of my co-authors, I am pleased to submit a revision of our manuscript. We appreciate your review and have responded to their suggestions from the Peer-Review Report below. Again, we thank the reviewers for their careful reading and commentary on our work, and hope that these revisions are satisfactory.

Kind regards,

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Reviewer 1

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Dear Authors A very well written lucid article. Best Regards

Thank you for your comments.

Reviewer 2

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The article is aimed to summarize the current literature on confocal endomicroscopy and molecular biomarkers in the evaluation of pancreatic cystic lesions. The title is "Confocal Endomicroscopy and Cyst Fluid Molecular Analysis: Comprehensive Evaluation of Pancreatic Cysts". 1. Several factors influence the evaluation of pancreatic cystic lesions. Please discuss these factors. 2. What are the new knowledges from this study? 3. Finally, please recommend the readers "How to apply this knowledge for routine clinical practice?".

We have edited the conclusion to further discuss these points. Edits are highlighted.

This review summarizes the current status of new technologies for the evaluation of PCLs including confocal endomicroscopy and molecular markers. Both EUS-nCLE and cyst fluid molecular analysis of PCLs represent promising new modalities to improve the diagnostic evaluation of PCLs by supplement the standard evaluation of pancreatic cysts which includes imaging (MRI, CT) and endoscopy (EUS). Given the limitations of current diagnostic algorithms, these imaging and molecular biomarkers can increase diagnostic accuracy and improve management of PCLs. Prospective multicenter studies are needed to determine how to integrate nCLE and molecular analysis into existing management protocols and clinical practice. In clinical practice, these technologies may especially be applied in the setting of cases with diagnostic uncertainty in order to improve accuracy and allow for appropriate risk stratification. Expertise in these technologies may not be widespread and referral to centers with experience may be necessary.

Reviewer 3

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Li et al have performed a comprehensive review of newer techniques for the evaluation of pancreatic cysts with the objective of improving selection of patients for surgical resection.

Thank you for your comments.