



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 42672

Title: Pelvic exenterations for primary rectal cancer: Analysis from a 10-year national prospective database

Reviewer’s code: 02686336

Reviewer’s country: Spain

Science editor: Ruo-Yu Ma

Date sent for review: 2018-10-15

Date reviewed: 2018-10-16

Review time: 1 Day

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer’s expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

I think this is an interesting topic becoming of most interest in the field of ultraradical primary surgery in rectal cancer. The study stresses the difficulties of balancing risks and benefits in term of survival well. The series is short and probably heterogeneous as



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data came from numerous Hospitals even though those Institutions were recruiting patients under the requirements of the Spanish Viking project study.

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

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- No

BPG Search:

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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 42672

Title: Pelvic exenterations for primary rectal cancer: Analysis from a 10-year national prospective database

Reviewer’s code: 02978709

Reviewer’s country: Denmark

Science editor: Ruo-Yu Ma

Date sent for review: 2018-10-15

Date reviewed: 2018-10-20

Review time: 4 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	(High priority)	<input type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer’s expertise on the topic of the manuscript:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input type="checkbox"/> General
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors present a study about pelvic exenteration in patients with locally advanced primary rectal cancer. The data originate from a prospective national register which was retrospectively analysed. There were 82 patients included in the study of whom 64 who



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underwent pelvic exenteration before 2013 and had therefore a long-term follow up. The article is well written and present a descriptive overview over this important area in colorectal surgery. Few minor issues are listed below: Introduction: The first paragraph presents some information about ColoRectal cancer incidence and survival rates. I would suggest to limit this paragraph to rectal cancer only which is the subject of the study. The incidence, survival and management of locally advanced rectal cancer then should be stated. Method: Well-designed study Results: R+ resections increased local recurrence (HR 5.58 95% CI 1.04-30.07 p=0.04) this is very wide confidence of interval, I wonder if the HR is still significant? Please, comment on this. In page 11 the authors mention "Quality of mesorectum according was classified as "good" in 74% of patients" what classification the authors are referring to? Discussion As the authors stated, pelvic exenteration is a complex procedure with a high rate of postoperative complications. A few lines about quality of life after pelvic exenteration would be useful so the reader can understand the delicate balance of surgical decision making in patients with locally advanced primary rectal cancer. The section about limitations of the study is very good and the authors recommendations to interpret results with caution, is well placed.

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

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No