

August 03, 2013

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 4453-review.doc).

Title: Strategies to reduce pulmonary complications after oesophagectomy

Author: Teus J Weijs, Jelle P Ruurda, Gerard AP Nieuwenhuijzen, Richard v Hillegersberg, Misha DP Luyer.

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 4453

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format has been updated

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

- (1) The reviewer commented that neoadjuvant chemoradiotherapy also has a role in pulmonary complications and should be commented as well in the manuscript. We agree that these treatments have been shown to be associated with an increase of postoperative pulmonary complications and have inserted a section regarding this issue under the heading "optimizing patients performance status", subheading "Minimising Irradiated Lung Volume".
- (2) The reviewer commented on the role of postoperative bronchoscopic removal of secretions. Indeed there is one publication that finds a preventive effect of this intervention. We fully agree with the reviewer that this should be included and this is now discussed under the heading "postoperative strategies".

Doing so, we incorporated all the suggestions of the reviewer.

We hope the Editor will consider our manuscript for publication in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,

Teus J Weijs
Department of Surgery
University Medical Center Utrecht
Utrecht, Heidelberglaan 100
3584 CX The Netherlands
E-mail: t.j.weijs@umcutrecht.nl