

Thessaloniki 26/09/2020

Professor Ke-Qin Hu

Professor Koo Jeong Kang

Professor Nikolaos T Pyrsopoulos

Editors-in-Chief, World Journal of Hepatology

Dear Professors,

Re: Koraki et al, Metalloproteinase expression after desflurane preconditioning in hepatectomies. A randomized clinical trial.

We are grateful to the Reviewers and the Editorial Office for their comments and guidance. We have elaborated on each one of them and hope to have meet your requirements. On behalf of all co-authors, I cite our answers to each point for revision and submit the revised manuscript for further evaluation.

We look forward to hearing from you and are at your disposal for anything else.

Thank you in advance.

Yours sincerely,

Anna Gkiouliava, MD

## Answering Reviewers

### Reviewer #1

Thank you for your comment. This is the first clinical study evaluating the effect of desflurane on IRI in patients undergoing hepatectomy. Considering the promising results more researchers may be urged to look into this method as a tool towards IRI. We believe that cooperation between anaesthesiologists and surgeons may provide more opportunities for investigation of this field as it is expressed by our multidisciplinary team.

### Reviewer #2

1: Thank you for your comment. We have integrated more information in the Discussion section.

2: This is an interesting point. As fibrosis and steatosis are considered as risk factors for postoperative complications, histology samples were studied. The results were similar among the two groups at baseline.

### Reviewer #3

Thank you for your comments. All your points have been taken into consideration in the manuscript.