

## **Point-by-point responses to the reviewer's comments**

### **Reviewer1**

Great to have been officially invited to peer review this work : I would like to draw your attention to the following errors highlighted to be considered for corrections.

1. Comment: Abstract content disclosure was great except that categorization brief summary of Abstract into Background Introduction, Objectives or Aim , Materials & Methods , Results and Conclusion within stipulated text limits is essential for standard protocol and readership feasibility context. Address minor errors highlighted on manuscript draft review document'

Thank you for the appropriate comment to improve our manuscript. According to this comment, we changed the abstract as follows. And its words number is only 190.

### **Background**

The spread of the new coronavirus (COVID-19) infection in 2020 has had a significant impact on the treatment of cancer worldwide. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the biggest challenge for pancreatic surgeons is the difficulty in providing oncological cares.

### **Aim**

In this review article, from the standpoint of surgeons, we explain the concept of triaging of patients with pancreatic tumors under the COVID-19 pandemic, and the actual impact of COVID-19 on treatment of patients with pancreatic tumors.

### **Results**

The most vital points in selecting the best therapeutic approach for patients with pancreatic tumors during this pandemic are 1) oncologists need to tailor the treatment plan based on the COVID-19 phase, tumor malignant potential, and patients' comorbidities. 2) optimal treatment for pancreatic cancer should be planned according to the condition of each patient and tumor resectability based on NCCN resectability criteria.

### **Conclusions**

To choose the best therapeutic approach for patients with pancreatic tumors during this pandemic, we need to tailor the treatment plan based on elective surgery acuity scale (ESAS).

Newly established ESAS for pancreatic tumor and flowchart indicating the treatment strategy of pancreatic cancer, are feasible to overcome this situation.

2. Highlights: N/A , I recommend authors should indicate highlights to the article  
Thank you so much of for this reviewer's comment.

The highlights of this review article are the modified ESAS and new flowchart for triaging PDAC patients. Therefore, we changed the abstract as shown above.

3. Key words: N/A , I recommend authors should indicate keywords to the article Goodluck on publications

Thank you for your comment, and we added the 6 keywords.

COVID-19; Pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma; Surgical treatment; Pancreatic tumor; Pandemic; NCCN resectability criteria

#### **Reviewer2**

Title: Surgery for pancreatic tumors in the midst of COVID-19 pandemic The manuscript deals with an interesting argument, tremendously current, the evaluation of patients with pancreatic tumors, including pancreatic cancer, under the COVID-19 pandemic, and the actual impact of COVID-19 on treatment of patients with pancreatic tumors. The topic has a clinical relevance since the COVID-19 pandemic has changed the routinary management of oncological disease. The manuscript is well written: the title reflects the main subject of the article, abstract well summarize the arguments. The discussion is well articulated according to the most recent literature and the authors have clearly underlined the most vital points in selecting the best therapeutic approach for patients with pancreatic tumors during this pandemic. The tables/figures are representatives and of good quality. The manuscript cites appropriately the latest and authoritative references. Accepted

Thank you so much for accepting our manuscript, hope this paper provide the great interest to the readers.