Prof Andrzej S Tarnawski Editor-in-Chief World Journal of Gastroenterology 21st January 2022

Dear Professor Tarnawski

Re: Waiver of informed consent for the study: To scope or not? – The challenges of managing patients with positive FOBT after a recent colonoscopy

Thank you for reviewing our study which reports on the prevalence of advanced colorectal neoplasia and colorectal cancer in patients with a positive iFOBT, after having a recent colonoscopy.

Informed consent was not required as the study carried no more than low risk to participants. The data that were collected in the study were routinely collected data as per standard of care of patients having a colonoscopy. These data were obtained from existing sources including the center's electronic medical records and proceduralists' records. There was no additional burden or physical harm to patients.

Thank you. With kind regards,

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