

February 27, 14

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 7651-updated.doc).

Title: *Phantom Limb Pain: A review of treatment options*

Author: Shiqiang Tian, MD, PhD; Saeed Nick, MD; Hong Wu, MD, MS

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Anesthesiology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 7651

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

Authors would like to thank reviewers for your time and effort in review of this manuscript.

Point-to-point answers to reviewers' comments were enclosed below.

Reviewer 1

Thank you very much for inviting me to review this article. it is a very well written review of available treatment options for PLP. however, the title is not very convincing as there is no evidence based reviewing done here. the title can just be a review on the options available for treating PLP. the study on capsaicin also needs to be clarified.

The title of this manuscript was revised to reflect the availability of current treatment options for PLP. Please see changes at page 1, line 2.

The study on capsaicin was further elaborated in the revised manuscript. Please see changes at page 4, line 22-24.

Reviewer 2

The authors describe analyses of treatments of phantom limb pain. The authors should clearly state the methods to retrieve papers, and criteria of citing papers, I do not understand the importance of cited papers because the authors did not state the cited papers were double-blinded or open studies, or the numbers of patients studied. The title says "evidence-based treatment options." However, the authors cited a paper on only two patients.

As the reviewer 1 pointed out, there were very few studies on randomized investigation or large retrospective review. We revised this manuscript to review of available treatment options for PLP. We modified our manuscript to clearly state natures of cited papers.

Specific comments: Page 2 I would like to recommend the last paragraph be deleted.

The last paragraph was deleted as suggested. Please see changes at page 3, line 1.

Page 3 In the middle of the second paragraph, the authors say "Mirror therapy has primarily been used with upper limb amputations." I would like to recommend the authors cite the results of treatment of mirror therapy for patients with upper limb phantom pain in the first, then describe patients suffering from lower limb phantom pain. This information was added. Please see changes at page 3, line 14-15.

Page 4 I would like to recommend the authors report studies of pregabalin for the treatment of phantom limb pain. If there have been no reports of pregabalin treatment for phantom limb pain, the authors should state "There have been no reports of pregabalin for phantom limb pain."

This information was added. Please see changes at page 4, line 22-24.

Page 5 The results of treatment of phantom limb pain with capsaicin should be stated. END

This information was added to the revised manuscript. Please see changes at page 5, line 38.

Reviewer 3

This is an interesting narrative review on phantom limb pain and its treatment. The paper is well written and clear. It is a useful reading for those physicians involved in chronic pain treatment. Please consider adding one or more tables to summarize the findings of your search.

A table summarizing the current treatment options for PLP is added. Please see changes at page 2, line 10, also in page 15.

The reference list perhaps is too long. Please consider shortening it by 20-25%, in particular deleting the oldest references.

20 references were deleted as required and the reference list was shortened by 20%.

3. References and typesetting were corrected

Thank you again for consideration of publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Anesthesiology*.

Sincerely yours,

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