

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS



February 12th, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 8631-review.doc).

Title:

The Efficacy of SpyGlass™ directed biopsies compared to Brush Cytology in Obtaining Adequate Tissue for Diagnosis in Patients with Biliary Strictures.

SpyGlass: A Step to bile duct histology

Author:

Johannes Wilhelm Rey, Torsten Hansen, Sebastian Dümcke, Achim Tresch, Katja Kramer, Peter Robert Galle, Martin Goetz, Marcus Schuchmann, Ralf Kiesslich, Arthur Hoffman

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 8631

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

Reviewer 1:

1. Some sentences in the whole manuscript are lacking in proper English language. The areas need to be properly written.

The manuscript was revised for grammatical and structural errors. We hope, that the manuscript now is written in a better English after sending the manuscript once more again to an official translation office.

2. The major ethical concern of the publication is the collaboration between the author and the trademark (Spyglass). Is there any sort of understanding between the company and the authors. Was the study influenced by the company financially, if so, the authors need to state that. To me the whole manuscript looks like a big scientific advertisement for the company.

We carefully looked over the raised comments, but there are no financial relationships or contracts between the authors and Boston Scientific. The authors A. H., M. G. and R. K. have participated in workshops with the SpyGlass System or offered workshops, but the study itself was neither sponsored nor the authors are under an contract with BostonScientific. The only purpose of the study is a scientific one. We are very sorry, that this concern has risen, but definitely no relationship is present.

3. Introduction part of the paper is too much. The authors need to shorten it. Same can be done with methodology section.

We have shortened the introduction part and the methodology section.

Reviewer 2:

1) The study should emphasize the feasibility and safety of SpyGlass procedure in obtaining

biopsies in patients with biliary strictures rather than the results that are obvious.

We thank the reviewer for raising this important point. In fact, it is correct that the safety should be mentioned in the manuscript. After revision we hope to describe the safety and the feasibility of the POC in the manuscript more clearly.

2) Histological classification of inflammation are not explained in details. It is necessary to describe a more specific definition of inflammatory changes such as number and type of cellular infiltrate.

We absolutely agree with this comment and have clarified our histological classification. Now all criteria for inflammation are described in detail. And we believe, that the readers of WJG can easily follow our classification and understand this part better.

3) It's not clear if dysplastic changes are not diagnosed by this technique or if none of patients in this study has these changes.

Yes, it is correct, that none patient in this study had dysplastic changes. We have clarified this fact now much clearer in the text.

4) There is no correspondence between the classification of specimen quantity reported in the text and the same classification reported in table 2

The reviewers comment is very helpful. We have adjusted the headlines of table 2 according to the mentioned classification in the results.

5) There no correspondence between inflammatory changes reported in the text and the inflammatory degrees reported in Tables 3, 3a and 3b.

Once more again we thank the reviewer for this important comment. The results were revised and all subgroup analysis were added to the text.

6) It must be controlled the bibliography because sometimes it is not adequate or there is not a correspondence with the text.

The references were controlled. In some cases references were added.

3. References and typesetting were corrected

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the World Journal of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy.

Sincerely yours,

Johannes Wilhelm Rey, MD

Department of Internal Medicine

St. Mary's Hospital Frankfurt

Richard-Wagner-Straße 14

60318 Frankfurt

Germany

E-Mail: johannes.wilhelm.rey@t-online.de

Phone: +49 151 157 91 000

Fax: +49 69 1563 1577