

Subject: Response to Reviewer Comments on Manuscript Revision

Dear reviewer:

Thank you for reviewing our manuscript and providing valuable feedback. We appreciate your thorough review and professional insights.

We carefully reviewed your comments and made revisions accordingly. Following your guidance, we have uploaded the revised manuscript, with modifications highlighted in yellow, as per your instructions. We have revised and polished the manuscript according to your suggestions to ensure an improved quality and enhanced readability.

Regarding your minor revisions, we have carefully considered each point and made the necessary adjustments. Below are our responses to each of your comments:

1. Comment: The authors must proof and edit the manuscript. Some minor language polishing should be proofed. The references numbers should be superscripted.

Response: We meticulously proofread the manuscript and superscripted all reference numbers as per your suggestion. Additionally, we enlisted the assistance of a professional language editing service to refine the manuscript further, ensuring clarity and accuracy.

2. Comment: The part 1 "Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria" and part 2 "Patient" of the methods section should be exchanged.

Response: Following your recommendation, we repositioned the sections in the Methods part. "Patient" now precedes "Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria" as suggested. Please refer to page 5, lines 20-29 for verification.

3. Comment: The limit of the study should be listed and discussed.

Response: We added a section discussing the limitations of the study in the final part of the Discussion. We discussed potential reasons for these

limitations and highlighted directions for future research. We are progressively working on the tasks mentioned in the manuscript, although it requires more time and effort.

4. Comment: Please update and edit the references list.

Response: The reference section has been updated according to the journal's citation guidelines. We believe it now meets the required standards. Please see page 12, lines 23-29, and page 13, lines 1-4 for verification.

Once again, I would like to express my appreciation for your valuable feedback. The revisions made have significantly strengthened the manuscript, and we are confident that it now meets the standards of the journal. We look forward to hearing your thoughts on the revised version.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Sanyuan Hu.

E-mail address: drsanyuanhu@163.com

Telephone number: 0086-15650512858

Address: Department of General Surgery, The First Affiliated Hospital of Shandong First Medical University and Shandong Provincial Qianfoshan Hospital, Jinan 250000, Shandong Province, People's Republic of China.