

December, 2012

Dear Editor,

Title: Effect of autotransfusion system on tumor recurrence and survival in HCC patients

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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.

(1) Question from Reviewer: Statistical analysis is a key point for this retrograde study. A professional statistician is required to analyze the data. For instance, "continuous data using Student's t-test". Which data are continuous? ANOVA and followed by post-hoc is preferred for these kinds of data. Please check whether the statistical analysis is correct. "No significant differences were identified" at the end of page 8. In Table 2, the difference from female data in two groups of female 2(8.3%) and 7(11.9%) is obvious? **Answer to the reviewer:** We have used "continuous data" for numerical data which can hold any value. For instance, age, BMI are continuous. Continuous data were analyzed using Anova test. We did not need to use any post-hoc test, because the differences between the groups were not significant. Categorical data (e.g., gender) were analyzed using chi-squared test. Regarding the gender, the difference between the two groups was not significant.

(2) Comment from reviewers: Good paper, data is publishable. Not novel, but adds to consensus. Needs reduction of word count (method and discussion), and needs to make the results a little more interesting. accept with minor revisions. The article could be made



shorter as some sentences are repeatedly used. **Answer to reviewer:** According to reviewer recommendation, method and discussion section were reduced and repeated sentences removed from the text.

(3) Question from reviewer: Effects on survival should be included in the title. **Answer to reviewer:** According to reviewer recommendation, title of this manuscript re-written.

(4) Question from reviewer: In Table 2 and 3, Percentage is also needed for "Underlying disease", "Child Score", "Tumor differentiation. **Answer to reviewer:** percentage is added on the tables.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

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

Sincerely yours,



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