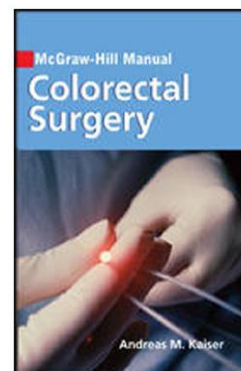


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Los Angeles, CA October 12, 2016

**RE: REVISION OF Commissioned manuscript (ID 00042188)**  
**Fecal incontinence - challenges and solutions**  
**WJG-2016 - Manuscript Number 29845**

**By Nallely SALDANA RUIZ and Andreas M. KAISER MD FACS FASCRS**

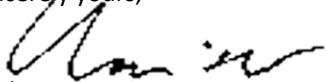
Dear Mr Ma

Enclosed you will find the revision of our commissioned paper for publication in *World J Gastroenterology*.

We have responded to the reviewers' comments.  
We have created an audio file.  
We have provided a Google Scholar search results page.  
We have not done the crossref check as I do not have membership.

I certify that the manuscript otherwise has not been published in whole or in part and is not being considered for publication elsewhere. There are no financial disclosures by either of the two authors.

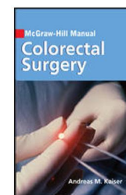
Sincerely yours,

  
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**Response to reviewers for Manuscript Number 29845 - Fecal Incontinence – Challenges and Solutions**

**Reviewed by 00052608**

Title Fecal Incontinence – Challenges and Solutions. This is a very important topic. However, taking into account that there are currently more than 9882 papers concerning fecal incontinence, including many reviews, any new work in relation to incontinence must be very significant. On the other hand, since this is a well-documented and authoritative review, it could be very important its publication in the WJG. Minor point. Authors must read and follow “WJG instructions for authors” (references etc.)

**Response:** Thank you for the comment. We reformatted the references.

**Reviewed by 03254357**

This is a an extensive review or introduction to fecal incontinence. While the breadth of the topic is addressed, I think there is not much substance or depth to the manuscript. The authors would benefit from a much clearer emphasis of the exact "challenges and solutions." Because there is such a large amount of information, I think it would be best to establish goals for the reader at the beginning and reemphasize key takeaway points at the end. Even just a clearer delineation of what the authors think are the most important challenges and most important solutions would be beneficial. The section labeled "the challenge" starts to touch on the difficulty with measurement of FI but there is a lot more that could be said and other "challenges" that could be touched upon. It also seems a little too casual to state that our knowledge of physiology and pathophysiology is "sketchy in many aspects." I think this paper would also benefit from a proposed treatment algorithm or at least a general algorithm of what the authors typically do with the caveat that it is not applicable to everyone. The authors try to suggest that SNS is a major breakthrough in the management of FI but the section on SNS is really quite short. The section on injectables is almost twice as long as the paragraph on SNS. A lot more detail and emphasis and description of other studies should be given to SNS and less on injectables, in my opinion. Maybe even having a diagram of SNS or general eligibility criteria for SNS would be worthwhile. The summary of this review is also quite sparse. The paper would benefit from getting rid of some of the redundant discussion in the body of the paper and working on highlighting the key points in the summary.

**Response:** Thank you for the comment. We understand that the topic is large and complex and has been addressed by other reviews, but nonetheless, we were invited by the editors provide to an overview of the topics. We appreciate the reviewer's comments and included the following changes:

- We created added some key points at the end.
- We condensed the injectable section and expanded the SNS section
- We polished the language and broadly re-edited the manuscript.





**Reviewed by 00001787**

I read with interest this relevant review on Fecal Incontinence challenges by Kaiser AM and coworkers. The Authors should be commended for providing such a comprehensive MS. However, the section on conservative Tx is to be implemented with particular attention to PFMT and biofeedback Tx. No additional suggestions on this side

**Response:** Thank you for the comment. We have added a statement about PFMT/biofeedback training.

**Reviewed by 00040529**

This review on "Fecal Incontinence: challenges and solutions" is well written and very comprehensive. The Authors presented an update of all different aspects of the management of fecal incontinence. My only recommendation is to report in a Table the results of the various surgical treatments according to the literature (efficacy rate, complications rates, level of evidence and grade of recommendations)

**Response:** Thank you for the comment. We created a table with outcomes.

