

## **ANSWERING REVIEWERS:**

Reviewer#1:

**Scientific Quality:** Grade B (Very good)

**Language Quality:** Grade A (Priority publishing)

**Conclusion:** Accept (General priority)

**Specific Comments to Authors:** Thank you very much for the opportunity to review this paper. It is a well written review of the management of retrorectal tumors. The references are in order and the text it is well organized.

We thank you for accepting to review our article and for your valuable comments. We hope that you find the revised version of the manuscript suitable for publication in World Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery.

Reviewer #2:

**Scientific Quality:** Grade A (Excellent)

**Language Quality:** Grade A (Priority publishing)

**Conclusion:** Accept (High priority)

**Specific Comments to Authors:** Dear Authors, Congratulations for this comprehensive review on retrorectal tumors. It is very well written, clear and concise. It allows to have a general view on a topic which is not very well described in literature. I have no comments on this review as it is very well made.

We thank you for accepting to review our article and for your valuable comments. We hope that you find the revised version of the manuscript suitable for publication in World Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery.

Reviewer #3:

**Scientific Quality:** Grade D (Fair)

**Language Quality:** Grade B (Minor language polishing)

**Conclusion:** Rejection

**Specific Comments to Authors:** This is an important topic and it is a nice summary of the evidence. This seems like a simple summary of the evidence and management of these tumors, and does not highlight the complexity of the care, decision making and option for non-operative management for some benign tumors.

We thank you for accepting to review our article and for your valuable comments. Non-operative management includes only a small portion of patients with retrorectal tumors, only for some benign tumors and malignant tumors with distant metastasis treated with chemotherapy. Based on our clinical experience, we mostly prefer operating patients with benign-appearing tumors since they usually have predominant symptoms requiring applying to the clinic.

We hope that you find the revised version of the manuscript suitable for publication in World Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery.

Reviewer #4:

**Scientific Quality:** Grade B (Very good)

**Language Quality:** Grade A (Priority publishing)

**Conclusion:** Accept (General priority)

**Specific Comments to Authors:** In this review, the authors detailed the epidemiology, diagnosis, treatment, and post-operative surveillance of retrorectal tumors. This is a very comprehensive article with case presentations and an appropriate number of figures and tables. There is nothing particularly objectionable in the article.

We thank you for accepting to review our article and for your valuable comments. We hope that you find the revised version of the manuscript suitable for publication in World Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery.