Dear Editor,

Thank you very much for your kind e-mail, which gave us the possibility to revise our manuscript.
We hope this revision will make our manuscript better to be accepted in your journal.

Name of Journal: *Artificial Intelligence in Gastroenterology*

Manuscript Type: REVIEW

Use of artificial intelligence in Total Mesorectal Excision in rectal cancer surgery: state of the art and perspectives.

Vinicio Mosca, Giacomo Fuschillo, Guido Sciaudone, Kapil Sahnan, Francesco Selvaggi, Gianluca Pellino

The text went through a major revision as requested. Added content was highlighted and reviewed by a native English-speaker.

Q1. I suggest the authors recheck the proper use of abbreviations in the text.
A1. Abbreviations have been checked in the text according to the suggested rule, e.g. the abbreviation has been removed from the title and defined in all other sections when it first appears.

Q2. I suggest the authors go into more detail about the role and limitations of AI in TME.
A2. The role and limitations of AI have been described in detail.

Q3. I suggest the authors to add at least two figures that present the detailed working principle on the AI in TME. Critical analyses and vital information for TME using AI should be discussed.
A3. Two figures were added, about the Machine Learning Pipeline and about the use of AI in rectal cancer surgery.

Q4. Critical analyses and vital information for TME using AI should be discussed.
A4. An extensive analysis on AI in surgery was included.

Q5. More references should be included. It is advisable to incorporate the following contemporary studies into the discussion to substantiate the arguments and ensure a comprehensive evaluation of the recent advancements in this field: · doi: 10.1148/radiol.220996 · doi: 10.1016/j.radonc.2023.109574 · doi: 10.1016/j.media.2023.102755 · doi: 10.1007/s00330-022-09355-5 · doi: 10.1016/j.modpat.2023.100129

A5. All references suggested above have been included in the manuscript.