

ANSWERING REVIEWERS



July 14, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 11277-review.doc).

Title: Risk factors for early rebleeding and mortality in acute variceal hemorrhage

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Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 11277

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 English writing has been modified and all the revisions are highlighted.

2 For reviewer No. 32726, (1) "Patientsand methods" have been changed to "Patients and methods".

(2) Since authors chose the day of the PTVE procedure as the time of entry, how to handle the patients with rebleeding before PTVE? Are they excluded or not? If not, are there any influences?

Actually in our study, patients with rebleeding after endoscopic ligation were the candidate for PTVE treatment. If the patients were treated with PTVE, then they met the inclusion criteria. If the patients were not treated with PTVE, they would not enter the study.

3 For reviewer No.70583, (1) this is a retrospective cohort study, which has some advantages: it is conducted on a smaller scale, requires less time to complete, and is less expensive than prospective studies. In a retrospective study, outcomes and exposures have already occurred, and the resources are mainly directed at collection of data only.

(2) EVL is the recommended therapy for acute variceal bleeding; rebleeding after EVL may be managed by a second attempt at endoscopic therapy or TIPS; however, TIPS is a complex procedure. Modified PTVE is an effective and safe method for preventing rebleeding of EV and gastric varices, so we use PTVE as rescue therapy for EVL failure.

4 References were thoroughly checked.

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

Sincerely yours,

Chun-Qing Zhang

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