

## ANSWERING REVIEWERS



August 20, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 13032-review.doc).

**Title: Successful surgical management of ruptured umbilical hernias in cirrhotic patients with refractory ascites without use of Transjugular intrahepatic portosystemic shunt**

**Authors: Nikolaos A. Chatzizacharias, J. Andrew Bradley, Simon Harper, Andrew Butler, Asif Jah, Emmanuel Huguet, Raaj K. Praseedom, Michael Allison, Paul Gibbs**

**Name of Journal:** *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 13032

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) The title has been amended as per the reviewer's comment
  - (2) The authors state that to our knowledge this is the largest series on the management of ruptured umbilical hernias in cirrhotic patients. The paper mentioned by Banu et al. consists of a series of 22 patients, of which only 5 had ruptured hernias.
  - (3) All patients in our series were managed for refractory ascites with regular paracentesis with or without high dose diuretics. This was clarified in the manuscript and the definition of refractory ascites was also included.
  - (4) Hepatic cirrhosis Child's B or C is not an absolute contraindication for TIPS. However, it is associated with inferior outcomes and this is mentioned in the discussion section of the manuscript

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

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N.A. Chatzizacharias', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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