

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS



January 14, 2015

Dear Editor,

Title: Laparoscopic in initial learning curve versus masterly open pancreaticoduodenectomy : a comparison of surgical outcomes and the cost.

Author: Chun Lu Tan; Hao Zhang; Bing Peng; Ke Zhou Li.

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 14990

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

1 Format has been updated

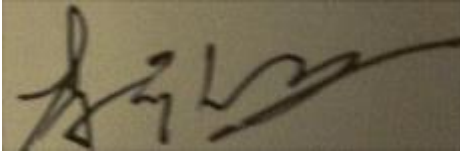
- (1) The title has been changed as **“Outcome and costs of laparoscopic pancreaticoduodenectomy during the initial learning curve versus laparotomy”**.
- (2) The running title has been changed as “TLPD during initial learning curve”
- (3) The “Abstract” has been modified according to “format for retrospective study”.

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

- (1) According to the suggestions of No. 02927089, changes have been made as follows:
 - a. The information of products I name is added;
 - b. The number of pancreatic cancer of TLPD after initial learning curve is added in the results.
 - c. The mortality and morbidity rate of all TLPD is added in the results.
 - d. A flow chart is added in the article.
 - e. The information and number of the costs are added in the results.
 - f. The difference of technique of reconstruction is added in the “technique” part.
- (2) According to the suggestions of No. 00009776, changes have been made as follows:
 - a. The explanation of why the first 15 successful cases from each surgeon was selected is added into the “materials and methods” part.
 - b. The suggestion of analysis of all 60 TLPD cases was not adopted in revision. Because TLPD from experienced surgeons in large centers were proven as safe as laparotomy according to the published references, the aim of this study is to give information of the outcome and costs of TLPD in initial learning curve. The purpose of this study is to discuss what it should be paid attention to when surgeons try to do pancreatoduodenectomy by laparoscope without rich experience. So we think it may be better to give focus on the first 15 cases of each surgeon. As for the rest cases after initial learning curve, we think the focus should be put on the long term outcome of malignant disease. Thanks for the precious suggestion, we will do it in further research.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

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

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored background. The signature is stylized and appears to be in Chinese characters.

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