

ANSWERING REVIEWERS

February 16, 2015

Dear Editor,



Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 15899_Review.doc).

Title: Risk Factors of Organ Failure in Cholangitis with Bacteriobilia

Author: Jae Min Lee, Sang Hyub Lee, Kwang Hyun Chung, Jin Myung Park, Ban Seok Lee, Woo Hyun Paik, Joo Kyung Park, Ji Kon Ryu, Yong-Tae Kim.

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 15899

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) Reviewer #1

Comments to Authors

1. *The title is accurately reflects the major topic and contents of the study.*
2. *The abstract is well organized, providing a clear delineation of the research background, objectives, materials and methods, results and conclusions.*
3. *This study included 182 patients with acute cholangitis who underwent PTBD, then the bile samples was collected by PTBD, which is less prone to contamination by intestinal bacteria than ERCP.*
4. *The study design is rational and reliable.*
5. *The conclusion has good diagnostic value and clinical significance, because the organ failure scoring system introduced by the authors of this paper may aid clinicians to indentify a poor-prognosis group.*
6. *The figures can reflect the major findings of the study.*
7. *The references are updated.*

RESPONSE: Thank you for your kind comment. We are grateful for your affirmative feedback.

(2) Reviewer #2

Comments to Authors

The authors present the risk factors for organ failure in acute cholangitis with bacteriobilia and propose a prognostic scoring system that could be used to predict organ failure. The study is clear and well-written, however, the patient sample number is too low to draw such conclusions. Although there are statistically significant differences in the proposed risk factors between patients with organ failure and without, the actual number of patients that these differences are seen is very low. The authors need to increase the number of their cohort for sufficient and convincing conclusions to be drawn.

RESPONSE: Thank you for your precious comment and we completely understand your concern. As you mentioned, this concern has been already described in the limitation section of discussion. In addition, we are planning a large prospective study in order to confirm our results.

(3) Reviewer #3

Comments to Authors

This is a very interesting paper on a field of gastrointestinal diseases nowadays much more important in respect to yesterday. The Authors give interesting results, the English is good, statistical analysis is adequate and the results are well expressed and interesting. No more details for publicability of the paper.

RESPONSE: Thank you for your kind comment. We are grateful for your affirmative feedback.

(4) Reviewer #4

Comments to Authors

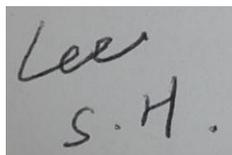
In this article, the authors found that a scoring system for predicting organ failure was highly specific and positive predictive in Cholangitis with Bacteriobilia. This is a well-written paper containing interesting results which merit publication. I suggest this paper should be accepted.

RESPONSE: Thank you for your kind comment. We are grateful for your affirmative feedback.

3. References and typesetting were corrected

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

Sincerely yours,

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in black ink. The signature consists of the name 'Lee' on the top line and 'S.H.' on the bottom line.

Correspondence to: Sang Hyub Lee, M.D., Ph.D.,

Department of Internal Medicine, Seoul National University College of Medicine,

Seoul National University Hospital,

101 Daehak-ro, Jongno-gu, Seoul, 110-744, Korea

Tel: +82-2-2072-4892/Fax: +82-2-762-9662

E-mail: gidoctor@snuh.org