

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS

May 8th, 2015

Dear Editor,



Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 17702-edited(revised).docx).

Title: Laparoscopic versus open abdominoperineal resection in multimodality management of low rectal cancers

Author: Yuwei Wang, Liyong Huang, Chengli Song, Changhua, Zhuo, Debing Shi, Guoxiang Cai, Ye Xu, Sanjun Cai, Xinxiang Li,

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 17702

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

1 Format has been updated

- 1) Author list and affiliations have been rearranged as required.
- 2) Author contributions has been added.
- 3) Manuscript title has been shortened into 12 words.
- 4) Running title has been added.
- 5) Ethics approval, Informed consent, Biostatistics, Conflict-of-interest, Data sharing have been added. PDF documents will be uploaded.
- 6) Aim of Abstract has been shortened into 20 words.
- 7) Method of Abstract has been revised into 163 words.
- 8) Conclusion of Abstract has been shortened into 25 words.
- 9) Core tip has been added as required.
- 10) Highlighted has been added as required.
- 11) Abbreviations has been added under each table.
- 12) As required by one of the peer review, citation of "Huang MJ, Liang JL, Wang H, Kang L, Deng YH, Wang JP. Laparoscopic-assisted versus open surgery for rectal cancer: a meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials on oncologic adequacy of resection and long-term oncologic outcomes. INT J COLORECTAL DIS 2011; 26: 415-421" has been newly inserted, and numbered [20], after the phrase "several randomized clinical trials", at the end of first paragraph of introduction.
- 13) Format of references has been revised as required. PMID and DOI are added within square bracket after each references.
- 14) In the main manuscript, blank space between reference number and the before words have been omitted as required.

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

- (1) **Comments:** "METHODS: In which way did you choose a patient for Laparoscopic or Open APR? "

Response:

The present study enrolled patients from March 2009 to December 2013 in our center. Laparoscopy was introduced into our center in February 2009. Patients was evaluated fit for laparoscopy

according to previous abdominal surgery, ASA score, BMI and patients individual preference. Laparoscopic APR gained its popularity from 2011, not only in our center but also worldwide. Therefore, the number of laparoscopic APR is more prominent after 2011. Whereas, more open APRs were performed before 2011.

- (2) "In follow up: metachronous metastasis, local recurrence and 5 cases of postoperative mortality are described. It could be important define the when they occurred after surgery."

Response: Time of recurrence or metastasis or mortality have been listed case by case, as below.

NO.	Group	Date of Diagnosis	Metachronous metastasis	Local recurrence	Date of recurrence or metastasis	Death	Date of death
Case1	LAPR	03-Apr-2013	Lung	No	26-Jul-2013	Yes	17-Dec-2013
Case2	LAPR	30-Dec-2011	No	Yes	30-Nov-2012	Yes	30-Nov-2013
Case3	LAPR	17-Oct-2012	Lung	No	22-Jul-2013	No	N.A.
Case4	LAPR	05-Jul-2012	Peritoneum	No	11-Sep-2013	No	N.A.
Case5	LAPR	13-Mar-2013	No	Yes	15-Apr-2014	No	N.A.
Case6	LAPR	12-Jul-2013	No	Yes	21-Apr-2014	No	N.A.
Case7	OAPR	14-Aug-2013	Liver	No	18-Jan-2014	Yes	25-Aug-2014
Case8	OAPR	12-Sep-2012	Liver, Lung	No	12-Sep-2013	Yes	18-Dec-2014
Case9	OAPR	12-Jan-2012	Liver, Lung	No	06-Jun-2012	Yes	30-Sep-2013
Case10	OAPR	15-May-2013	Bone, Peritoneum	No	08-Jul-2013	No	N.A.
Case11	OAPR	23-Dec-2011	Bone	No	04-Sep-2014	No	N.A.
Case12	OAPR	08-Mar-2013	Liver	No	12-Mar-2014	No	N.A.
Case13	OAPR	18-Sep-2013	Liver	No	09-Jan-2014	No	N.A.
Case14	OAPR	06-Mar-2013	No	Yes	13-May-2014	No	N.A.
Case15	OAPR	03-Feb-2012	Lung	No	12-Dec-2013	No	N.A.
Case16	OAPR	16-Dec-2011	Lung	No	01-Oct-2012	No	N.A.
Case17	OAPR	13-Mar-2012	Lung	No	09-Sep-2014	No	N.A.
Case18	OAPR	22-Feb-2013	Lung	No	13-Jun-2013	No	N.A.
Case19	OAPR	22-Mar-2013	Lung	No	15-Jan-2014	No	N.A.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

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

Sincerely yours,



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