

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS

August 1st, 2015

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name 18548-review.doc)

Title: Submucosal Tunnel Endoscopy: PerOral Endoscopic Myotomy (POEM) and PerOral Endoscopic Tumor resection (POET).

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Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy

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The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers. Format and text has been revised.

Reviewer #1

Dear Referee

Thank you for your positive comments.

Reviewer #2

Dear Referee

Thank you for your positive comments.

Reviewer #3

Dear Referee

Thank you for your positive comments and criticism.

- The article has been shortened (41 text pages). Also the references were less (85). Figures 2 and 4 are withdrawn from manuscript.
- Particularly, we add 2 new references (number 58 and 63). Final number of references reduced from 121 to final 85.
- The sentence: *“Major POEM related complications such as severe mediastinitis, hemorrhage, or mucosal necrosis scarcely reported, and only during early POEM series”* has been removed from the manuscript. Instead detailed report on

the incidence of minor and major POEM-related complications (pages 19-23) added in the manuscript and in table 4.

- << *What is the mortality within 30 days after POEM/POET? (procedure and not procedure related)*>>. Answer: At the time of initial submission no published case of POEM-related death was found, although and according to International POEM group only a single unpublished POEM related death was reported until now and outside of the large volume Asian centers. So POEM related mortality is currently estimated as one out of 4000 POEM cases= 0.025%. We add this issue in manuscript page 24 and in table 4.
- In order to diminish the risk of mishaps related to submucosal endoscopy in the section of <<*Training in POEM*>> we add a relative paragraph (pages 23-25, and 28-29 and in table 2) and discuss in detail the steps for training before starting POEM.
- <<*The general fact that only the best of results tend to be published is completely avoided*>>. We add a comment on this in page 19-20 and 28. At the moment POEM and POET are restricted to pioneering centers and they are performed only within protocols according to international standards. Multicenter prospective randomized studies are currently under way, to answer all these questions. The present article aimed to review the up to date explosion of studies on POEM and POET, and to discuss some controversial issues.

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the World Journal of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy.

Sincerely Yours,

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