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**Name of Journal:** *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery*

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 22503

**Manuscript Type:** Systematic Review

### Answers

We revised the manuscript according to the reviewers' comments.

Reviewer #1. The manuscript was interesting. It addresses and gives clear messages on some discrepancies about fibrin sealant use in the treatment of pilonidal sinus disease. Thank you very much for your effort.

None.

Reviewer #2. As mentioned by the authors the few studies showed considerable heterogeneity, includes only few patients, and thus provides little power. Correspondingly a meta-analysis is overtreatment, and a descriptive analysis should be preferred. Main message should be that a benefit for the patients could not be proven. It is not justified to state, that there is no benefit, because there may be some conditions in which it may have, and the power of the studies is too small to allow a general conclusion. Unfortunately only few studies have comparisons with controls, another major limitation of such an analysis.

We revised the limitations of the study as below.

Analysing more patients than the previously published review provided us to make some specific comments. However, it is obvious that more studies are still necessary for clear comments.

The limitations of our study were (i) low number of randomized controlled trials, (ii) heterogeneity of the studies and (iii) not including subgroup analysis for special groups (pediatric cases, recurrent cases etc.). Because of these drawbacks, we used descriptive statistics in general and sometimes meta-analysis. Despite these limitations, some results of this analysis were satisfactory to make some comments.

Cuneyt Kayaalp