

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS



June 9, 2016

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 25858 -review.doc).

Title: Transanal surgery for obstructed defecation syndrome: literature review and a single-center experience

Author: Wei-Cheng Liu, Song-Lin Wan, SM Yaseen, Xiang-Hai Ren, Cui-Ping Tian, Zhao Ding, Ken-Yan Zheng, Yun-Hua Wu, Cong-Qing Jiang, Qun Qian

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 25858

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

1 The manuscript has been formatted carefully.

2 Revision has been made according to reviewers' comments.

(There are 13 comments in total.)

Part A (Reviewer 1)

(1) The reviewer's comments: This paper is well designed and minutely described for broad spectrum of obstructed defecation syndrome (ODS) with detailed literature review and authors' experience. Although the authors' case scale is somewhat small, ODS is a meaningful topic to all colorectal surgeons. And this paper will be one of the papers that have a meaningful help for understanding of ODS.

The authors' Answer: Thanks for the reviewer's careful evaluation and kind suggestion. We are engaged in a larger scale research and will have reports in the future.

Part B (Reviewer 2)

(2) The reviewer's comments and suggestions: Congratulations on highlighting this important topic and the surgical options. Suggest: 1. shorten the manuscript considerably by merging many of the sections on various surgical techniques.

The authors' Answer: Thanks for the reviewer's kind evaluation and suggests. The revised manuscript has been shortened by merging many of the sections on various surgical techniques.

(3) The reviewer's comments and suggestions: 2. Avoid repetitions.

The authors' Answer: Thanks for the reviewer's kind evaluation and comment. The manuscript has been revised to avoid repetitions.

(4) The reviewer's comments and suggestions: 3. Tabular format of the various techniques highlighting the pros and cons of each technique.

The authors' Answer: Thanks for the reviewer's kind evaluation and comment. Tabular format of the diverse techniques highlighting the pros (Table 1) and cons (Table 2) of each technique has been added into the revised manuscript.

(5) The reviewer's comments and suggestions: 4. Make the manuscript more readable by 1. Introductions to the problem 2. Current options (mention both medical and surgical) 3. The essential assessments needed 4.

Surgical options with review of the benefits and problems of each technique.⁵ then your experience.

The authors' Answer: Thanks for the reviewer's kind evaluation and comment. The revised manuscript has been modified with the format as reviewer suggested in order to make it more readable.

(6) The reviewer's comments and suggestions: 5. I am unclear about where is the data for your last 2 tables.

The authors' Answer: Thanks for the reviewer's kind evaluation and comment. The data in Table 4 have been added into the revised manuscript and the Table 3 has been deleted from the revised manuscript. Moreover, Figure 3 is added into the revised manuscript instead of Table 4.

Part C (Reviewer 3)

(7) The reviewer's comments and suggestions: In this manuscript, Trans anal surgery for obstructed defecation syndrome (ODS) has been described. Including the detailed literature review and authors' experience. Although the number of cases is relatively small, this paper will aid to better understand ODS and its clinical outcome. 1. The content should be more systematically arranged. This will provide to readers to better understand the data presented in the paper.

The authors' Answer: Thanks for the reviewer's kind evaluation and suggests. The content of the revised manuscript has been arranged more systematically to help the readers to better understand the data presented in the paper.

(8) The reviewer's comments and suggestions: 2. The manuscript is highly repetitive and should be shortened at least 10%.

The authors' Answer: Thanks for the reviewer's kind evaluation and advice. The revised manuscript has been shortened at least 10%.

(9) The reviewer's comments and suggestions: 3. Table 3 and should be revised.

The authors' Answer: Thanks for the reviewer's kind evaluation and suggests. Table 3 has been removed from the revised manuscript.

(10) The reviewer's comments and suggestions: 4. The paper needs some language polishing.

The authors' Answer: Thanks for the reviewer's kind evaluation and advice. We have sent our manuscript to the English language editing services company American Journal Experts, and some native English speakers to polish the language before submitting to you this time.

Part D (Reviewer 4)

(11) The reviewer's comments and suggestions: In this manuscript, authors describe different surgical options for ODS, including authors' experience. Although it provides a good understand of ODS, some aspects must be modified to consider for editing: 1. Avoid repetitions of some aspects such indications.

The authors' Answer: Thanks for the reviewer's kind evaluation and comment. The revised manuscript has been revised to avoid repetitions of some aspects such indications.

(12) The reviewer's comments and suggestions: 2. Manuscript must be shortened

The authors' Answer: Thanks for the reviewer's kind evaluation and advice. The revised manuscript has been shortened.

(13) The reviewer's comments and suggestions: 3. The format of the manuscript is unclear. Some times it seems a review and sometimes a retrospective study. Authors should follow the format of a retrospective study, including in the discussion the literatura review

The authors' Answer: Thanks for the reviewer's kind evaluation and comment. The revised manuscript has been modified in the format as the reviewer suggested and has been arranged more systematically to render it more readable and to provide a better understanding of the data presented in the paper.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

But there have been 8 articles which we could not find their DOIs both from the web of knowledge and the link (<http://www.crossref.org/SimpleTextQuery/>). They are as follows:

- 12 Reboa G, Gipponi M, Caviglia A, Matos J, Gallo M, Ferrari D. Technological improvements for the treatment of obstructed defecation syndrome. *In Vivo* 2015; 29(1): 45-50 [PMID: 25600529]
- 13 Reboa G, Gipponi M, Testa T, Lantieri F. Technological improvements in the treatment of haemorrhoids and obstructed defaecation syndrome. *In Vivo* 2011; 25(1): 129-135 [PMID: 21282746]
- 38 Keighley MR, Shouler P. Outlet syndrome: is there a surgical option? *J R Soc Med* 1984; 77(7): 559-563 [PMID: 6747979 PMCID: 1439944]
- 47 Boccasanta P, Venturi M, Stuto A, Bottini C, Caviglia A, Carriero A, Mascagni D, Mauri R, Sofo L, Landolfi V. Stapled transanal rectal resection for outlet obstruction: a prospective, multicenter trial. *Dis Colon Rectum* 2004; 47(8): 1285-1296; discussion 1296-1287 [PMID: 15484341]
- 82 Resta G, Scagliarini L, Bandi M, Vedana L, Marzetti A, Ferrocci G, Santini M, Anania G, Cavallesco G, Baccarini M. Sigmoid volvulus: is it a possible complication after stapled transanal rectal resection (STARR)? *G Chir* 2013; 34(7-8): 224-226 [PMID: 24091179 PMCID: 3915607]
- 84 Leardi S, De Santis G, Lancione L, Sista F, Schietroma M, Pietroletti R. Quality of life after treatment of rectal intussusception or rectocele by means of STARR. *Ann Ital Chir* 2014; 85(4): 347-351 [PMID: 25263168]
- 94 Mirabi N, Fazlani M, Raisee R. Comparing the outcomes of stapled transanal rectal resection, delorme operation and electrotherapy methods used for the treatment of obstructive defecation syndrome. *Iran J Med Sci* 2014; 39(5): 440-445 [PMID: 25242842 PMCID: 4164891]
- 100 Zhang ZG, Yang G, Pan D, Liang CH. Efficacy of endoscopic stapled transanal rectal resection for the treatment of rectocele. *Eur Rev Med Pharmacol Sci* 2014; 18(24): 3921-3926 [PMID: 25555885]

The authors' Answer: All revisions we made are fully according to the reviewers' and editor's comments and suggestions on the updated version (Manuscript_Review_Report_25858_20160513015803) and "Guidelines and Requirements for Manuscript Revision-Review" and "Format for Manuscript Revision-Review". What's more, all revisions we made are highlighted in the revised manuscript, named as 25858-Revised manuscript.

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

Sincerely yours,

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