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Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 26514

Manuscript Type: REVIEW

ANSWER TO THE REVIEWERS:

Reviewer #00058511: It is an interesting, well written mini review article. It gives a novel information as well as practical details.

ANSWER: the author thanks the reviewer for the comment.

Reviewer #00044326: Rubber band ligation is one of the most important, cost-effective and commonly used treatments of internal hemorrhoids. Hemorrhoidectomy showed better response rates, but it was associated with more complications and pain than RBL. Patients selection of RBL 2. recurrence rate after RBL 3. LIMITATION AND CONTRAINDICATION OF RBL 4. Quality of life after RBL.

ANSWER: information regarding patient selection, recurrence, success rates, and limitations was added as suggested. Concerning the data on RBL and quality of life, the most relevant information was already included (reference 26). Possible contraindications for the procedure such as: anti-platelet and/or anti-coagulant medication, liver cirrhosis, HIV and Crohn's disease were extensively discussed in the article.

Reviewer #00030987: I have carefully read the manuscript. The argument is interesting, especially in relation to the fact that the lack of financial resources leads us to treat many diseases in the outpatient setting. The text is exhaustive and well-organized. The list of references is not complete. I think that tables and figures should be included in the text.

ANSWER: the list of references was updated with two references. An extra table with more information regarding deaths due to rubber band ligation of hemorrhoids was added. For this paper, figures do not bring any relevant information, and most of these complications are rare and figures are not easily accessible.

Kind regards
Andreia Albuquerque