

ANSWERING REVIEWERS

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Title: Efficacy of multiple biliary stenting for refractory benign biliary strictures due to chronic calcifying pancreatitis

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We thank the reviewers for their interest in our manuscript and for helpful comments. We have made necessary change according to the suggestions of the reviewers and tried to improve the quality of our manuscript.

Response to 03648085

First, the number of samples was not enough to be typical.

As you pointed out, the sample size of our study was small. Accordingly, we have added the following sentence (**DISCUSSION**, paragraph 7, line 1-4).

“ In our study, the sample size was small and the patients were all male. In addition, this study was investigated by a single center. Additional multicenter studies with large number of patients involving both male and female patient population are needed to confirm our study.”

Second, stents were inserted whenhen symptoms and liver function test results following cholestasis appeared. Maybe periodic replacement(3 months) is more appropriate to avoid clogging effectively.

We increased stents at intervals of 2 or 3 months to avoid clogging and development of cholangitis (**MATERIAL AND METHODS**, *Procedure*, line 7-9). As you pointed out, periodic replacement (3 months) may be more appropriate.

Response to 00037961

This is an interesting cohort study with small group of patients. However, the data presented is important in identifying a large cohort group involving both male and female patient population in future studies. The studies including the patient selection has been carefully performed. Data analysis was performed carefully and could have been improved with a larger cohort.

As you pointed out, the sample size of our study was small and the patients were all male. Accordingly, we have added the following sentence (**DISCUSSION**, paragraph 7, line 1-4).

” In our study, the sample size was small and the patients were all male. In addition, this study was investigated by a single center. Additional multicenter studies with large number of patients involving both male and female patient population are needed to confirm our study.”