

Dear Editor,

Concerning our paper titled *"Efficacy and safety of endoscopic papillary balloon dilation for the removal of bile duct stones: data from a "real-life" multicenter study on Dilation-Assisted Stone Extraction (DASE)"* it is a retrospective study and it is our policy for this kind of study to simply communicate the study to the Institutional review board.

Best regards

23.August 2016

Dott. Roberto Di Mitri, MD

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Di Mitri', written in a cursive style.