

## Institutional Review Board statement

**Name of Journal:** World Journal of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 31566

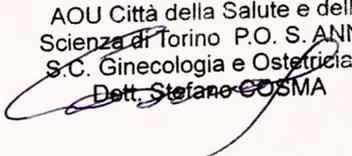
**Title:** Nerve preserving versus standard laparoscopic sacropexy: postoperative bowel function

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This retrospective study was performed without direct contact with either patients or providers and no individual patient information was revealed. The described experimental procedure (nerve preserving sacropexy) had already been approved by the Local Ethics committee for our preliminary anatomoclinical research (Cosma S, Menato G, Ceccaroni M, Marchino GL, Petruzzelli P, Volpi E, Benedetto C. Laparoscopic sacropexy and obstructed defecation syndrome: an anatomoclinical study. *Int Urogynecol J* 2013; 24(10): 1623-30) and subsequently introduced in the clinical practice of the department. Therefore, this study had no need of further review by the local Institutional Review Board.

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Date: 30/1/2012