

## **World Journal of Gastroenterology**

### **Reply to reviewer's comments**

#### **To editor in chief**

Thank you very much for reviewing our manuscript. I carefully check the reviewer's comments and revised the manuscript accordingly.

#### **To reviewers #1 (Reviewer's code: 03479537)**

**Reviewer 1** : Very good: accept

Comments:

The authors have conducted a well-written study based on sound methods. The manuscript flows easily and with clarity. The case selection and choice of the important variables were appropriate and clinically relevant. The graphs and the tables are to the point and summarizing the main results of the study in an appropriate fashion. The retrospective nature limits the study, and the analysis would benefit from a propensity score matching to match the cases better and hence give stronger inference. Also, the study is not powered, and despite the relatively large sample size, we think it's better being powered given a large number of independent variables.

Answers:

Thank you very much for your encouraging comment and valuable suggestion. We will make a plan of further study using a propensity score matching.

#### **To reviewers #2 (Reviewer's code: 0006874)**

**Reviewer 2** :

Very good: accept

Comments:

Use of innovative questionnaire, but as it not widely known, I would prefer it to be provided in a table, instead of having to search in bibliography about it. Small refinement of the language in some paragraphs would be nice, for the text to flow easier (example: "maintaining" instead of "To maintain quality of life" in the first paragraph of introduction).

Answers:

Thank you very much for your supportive comment. I have revised "To maintain quality of life" in the first paragraph of introduction to "Maintaining quality of life".

Sincerely,

Masazumi Takahashi, MD. PhD. Chief

Invited manuscript **ID (03262754)**

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