

May 18, 2017

Informed Consent Statement

All study participants, or their legal guardian, provided informed written consent prior to study enrollment.

Thank you for your consideration for publication of our manuscript in *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Xiaojian Bai". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial 'X'.