

June 19, 2013

Dear Editor,

I am writing to resubmit the manuscript titled: "Pure laparoscopic hepatectomy for patients with hepatocellular carcinoma and chronic liver diseases" under the new title: Pure laparoscopic hepatectomy for hepatocellular carcinoma with chronic liver disease" for publication in *World Journal of Hepatology*. Please find the edited manuscript by Morise *et al.* attached in Word format (file name: ESPS Manuscript No.3645-revised).

**We have revised the paper based on the helpful comments and concerns raised by the reviewers** Please see our detailed point-by-point rebuttal below.

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Hepatology*.

Sincerely yours,

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**Responses to Reviewer 1 comments:**

The manuscript is not accompanied by any figures and tables which takes away from the message the authors are trying to convey.

*We have revised the manuscript to include three tables. Tables 1 and 2 summarize comparisons between laparoscopic hepatectomy and open hepatectomy found in the literature. Table 3 includes data collected from hepatectomy procedures performed within our clinic.*

If it is a review then enough studies and data from other papers has not been included.

*A thorough review of the literature was performed, with data and findings from these reviewed papers added to both the "LAPAROSCOPIC HEPATECTOMY FOR HCC PATIENTS: AN OVERVIEW" section and Tables 1 and 2.*

The second paragraph in the abstract essentially is a repetition of the introduction and is

not needed.

*We have revised and re-written the abstract.*

At couple of places double language needs to be corrected especially "not small number of patients have cirrhosis with HCC and not small number require repeat procedures---" should be replaced by a significant proportion of HCC patients.

*The manuscript was externally reviewed for English and grammar content, and pointed double languages were corrected.*

### **Responses to Reviewer 2 comments:**

They described clinical data of their experience in the text. These data should be listed on the table.

*Our experience and clinical data is now detailed both in the text and in Table 3.*

If I put the page number from the beginning, they summarized 6 out of 21 patients who received pure laparoscopic liver resection in page 9. On the other hand, they described 41 patients who received same surgery in page 11. These descriptions are too confuse to understand what they did pure laparoscopic liver resection for any patients.

*The data in the section of "PURE LAPAROSCOPIC HEPATECTOMY FOR HCC PATIENTS: AN OVERVIEW" was updated and the number of the patients were matched to the data in the section of "LAPAROSCOPIC HEPATECTOMY FOR HCC PATIENTS: ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES."*

In addition, inclusion criteria for their approach is also undescribed.

*The inclusion criteria was added page 9.*

Please rearrange table and text.

*Tables 1-3 were added for clarity, and the text was revised for the explanations of the tables.*

Furthermore, if this is an invited review from the editor, please summarized and arrange table for previous relevant reports at least.

Tables 1 and 2 were added to include the summary of reviewed papers. Table 3 was added to include our data and experience.