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Re-Submission of invited manuscript “Complications of newborn enterostomies”

Manuscript Type: Restrospective Study

Manuscript Number: 42430

Dear Dr. Ma,

herewith we wish to re-submit the invited manuscript “Complications of newborn enterostomies” for consideration for publication in your journal “World Journal of Clinical Cases”.

The work described has not been submitted elsewhere for publication, in whole or in part, and all the authors listed have approved the manuscript.

The study was acknowledged by the ethical commission of the University Hospital Frankfurt (number 310/17).

We disclose to have not any potential or actual personal, political or financial interest in the material, information or techniques as described in the paper.

Please find the detailed answers to the reviewers comments as follow.

1. Editor:

- Audio Core Tip has been created and uploaded to the publishing platform in .mp3
- Format of the references in the text was changed accordingly
- Needed number of references was added
- Article Highlights were included

2. Reviewer 00158975:

Thank you for the review and the valuable criticism.

We tried to improve our manuscript in order to answer the questions mentioned.

- Did the authors find any correlation between disease condition and number of complication with survival?

Only 3 infants in our study population died in the time after enterostomy formation. There was no significant difference in survival between NEC/ other intestinal disorders (Group 1/ Group 2). This is mentioned in the paragraph "Study population" in the results section. As those 3 deceased children are hardly a representative number, we chose not to further examine survival, but rather apply the Clavien-Dindo-Classification in order to evaluate the outcome.

- Was there a difference in outcome with varying degree of surgeon experience?

The answer to this question is now included in the manuscript. All children were operated on by senior surgeons (co-authors) so there was no varying degree of experience in the surgical treatment of the neonates.

- The aim was really to compare NEC with others. However, the conclusion by the authors did not give us any affirmative answers

We clarified the conclusion regarding our finding, that infants suffering from NEC are at a higher risk for enterostomy-related complications.

All changes have been highlighted in the revised manuscript.

Sincerely

Udo Rolle, M.D.