

Answers to the reviewers comments

Dear Rev02544416: We thank you for the constructive comments on the manuscript. The detailed response to the reviewer's comments follow (the reviewer's comments are in italics).

«I read with great interest the manuscript entitled “Role of innovative 3D-Printing models in the management of hepatobiliary malignancies”. The topic is very interesting. The manuscript in general is very informative. I just have a concern with the section “discussion” which is in my opinion unnecessary. The manuscript is a mini review, so all presented data are discussion of previously published data. If the authors want to add further information it should be presented with a subtitle other than discussion».

Comments

In our manuscript we analyzed studies concerning the role of innovative three dimensional printing technologies in liver surgery. In this paper as we took your comments seriously, we change the title “discussion” with the subtitle “Impact of 3D printing technology in the era of hepatobiliary surgery”. Thank you again.

Dear Rev03646970: We would like to thank the reviewer for careful and thorough reading of this manuscript and for the thoughtful comments and constructive suggestions, which help to improve the quality of this manuscript. Our response follows (the reviewer's comments are in italics).

«This minireview addresses the literature currently available regarding utility of 3 dimensional printers in training and periprocedural planning Title, Abstract, Key words and background are appropriate Methods are well explained Results and Discussion are appropriate however given the heterogeneity of included studies and overall low number of studies, firm conclusions cannot be made therefore it is less likely that this review will help anyone change their clinical or educational practice There are frequent punctuation errors The flowchart in Figure 2 appears to be dissociated».

Comments

3D printing is an emerging technology that seems to have useful applications in various medical fields. In this MiniReview, we analyze the uses of 3D printing models which are reported in literature in the area of hepatobiliary surgery. We revised all the manuscript from the beginning. Punctuation and flowchart errors are corrected. Despite the heterogeneity of included studies, we can suggest three dimensional printing as an emerging technology in the area of surgical education and not as a routine diagnostic tool.

Dear Rev02904354: We are thankful for your constructive comments that helped to considerably improve and clarify the manuscript. We hope that the revised version answers your concerns. Our response follows (the reviewer's comments are in italics).

«This is a systematic review of literature of 3D printing in the management of hepatobiliary malignancies without any quantitative analyses. The paper seems to be insufficiently prepared. Spelling and grammar errors are readily observed, which are highlighted in the attachment. The order of reference is not well matched between the main text and list of reference. For example, the authors said "Weng et al. 2017 [48] ..." in the main text, but the reference should be "47 Weng J-Y," in the main text. Additionally, the review paper is very similar to the previous review papers in this same topic. If the authors should improve the paper, produce more clear summary of data or findings, and achieve more valuable and significant conclusions, it would become more suitable in a high-impact journal».

Comments

3D printing is a novel technique with applications in several liver diseases. Most of the published studies refer to its use in preoperative planning and education. Our target is to standardize the effects of 3D printing in liver surgery. We evaluated our manuscript from the beginning. Spelling and grammar errors are corrected. Additionally, we revised references in order to avoid any possible mismatching. We believe that our work is novel, because is focused in the application of 3d printing in the educational aspects of hepatic surgery and thus different from previous studies.