

Dear Editor,

thank you for your comments and suggestions.

As suggested, I added the Core tip in the manuscript.

Referring to the reviewers' comments:

Reviewer no 03062399 wrote:

"...is not innovative and does not add new knowledge in the field. Indeed, as stated from the author this paper has been presented as a poster at the 6th World Congress of the Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association, Washington, June, 2004".

Response: The paper was presented as a poster in a Congress where proceedings were not published. Furthermore, while teaching at postgraduate students of medicine, I realized that no-one knew about the myth of Tityus and this second reference to the destruction and reconstitution of the liver. This fact led me to submit this paper for publication.

Reviewer no 00188507 wrote:

"Although interesting, this type of opinion review, a short story, is acceptable for this journal from the point of journal scope."

Response: One of the main objectives of history of medicine, being worldwide an important part of medical curricula, is to urge students and doctors to use the knowledge of the past. This paper publicizes that people, so early in history, in an era where prejudices and strict religious beliefs played a key role, grabbed every chance they had to observe and understand the human body. The aim of this paper is to provoke thought on how did the ancient people know about the regenerative ability of the liver. Did they operate on some person or animal who survived the operation (remember that no disinfectant nor serious anesthetics existed) and then observed the regeneration? One of the main aims of WJMA is to improve the skills of physicians and we fully believe that this aim is fulfilled.

Thank you in advance

Sincerely,

Dr. Niki Papavramidou