

Reply to reviewers:

1. In the meta-analysis, the effect measures for dichotomous data was changed from risk ratio to odds ratio, no significant difference for the outcomes between the two effect measures.
2. Sensitivity analysis has been added in the study.
3. The values of effect size have been added in the abstract.
4. We added the different strategies of HMIE in Introduction.
5. More information about long-term survival outcome was presented in discussion.
6. More figures presented when subgroup analysis was conducted. So we put the results of outcomes in table.
7. Descriptions about the concrete procedures of two surgical operations presented in introduction (00503536).
8. Most eligible studies in our meta-analysis are retrospective studies which may lead to the poor uniform among those studies between the two groups such as histological subtype, pathological stage, tumor location and gender ratio. It is really hard to furtherly discuss the effect of OE and HMIE by removing the inconsistency due to the small sample size and difficulty in extracting the relevant data , which is also the limitation of our paper. We hope more studies with uniform are conducted to renew our rough conclusion in the future (02541859).
9. All changes in bold and italic forms.