

## **Response to Reviewer Comments:**

### **Reviewer 1:**

I would like to have a detailed explanation of the price of ESD. I would like to show you the price including whether it is the sedation fee, the compensation for the treatment materials including disposable devices. I would also like to briefly show the price of other endoscopic treatment.

Response:

Thanks for taking your time to review our manuscript. The price of ESD is not approved. There is no approved billing code for ESD in USA. That's the point of the manuscript. The insurance carrier may deny the payment. On the other hand, EMR has an approved billing code. The procedure cost for the endoscopist's EMR technical component is listed in our manuscript (2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph).

### **Reviewer 2:**

The author reviewed the current reimbursement process hurdles for ESD procedures in private practice model in USA and the data of two advanced endoscopists performing ESD in their private practice set-ups. The result showed EMR was considered inferior to ESD, but EMR has a listed CPT and was denied in only 0.83% cases. This article highlighted the billing and reimbursement hurdles to adopt ESD-related procedures in private practice model in US healthcare system. But the result will be more convincing with comparison between EMR and ESD data.

Response: Thanks for taking your time to review our manuscript. The price of ESD is not approved. There is no approved billing code for ESD in USA. That's the point of the manuscript. The insurance carrier may deny the payment. On the other hand, EMR has an approved billing code. The procedure cost for the endoscopist's EMR technical component is listed in our manuscript (2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph). Moreover, we found that the payment denial rate was much higher for ESD (8.33%) as compared to EMR (0.83%).

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