

ANSWERING REVIEWERS



September 20, 2013

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 5139-edited.doc).

Title: Endoscopic sphincterotomy plus large-balloon dilation versus endoscopic sphincterotomy for choledocholithiasis: A meta-analysis

Author: Xiao-ming Yang, Bing Hu

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 5139

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format has been updated

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

Reviewer 00036837

(1) Some terms such as “authenticated”, “limited” and “certify” have been replaced by more appropriate terms.

(2) The “well-arranged trial” and the “conflicting results” refer to the same study (ref. [13]). We have uploaded this paper.

(3) We have decreased abbreviations as more as possible.

(4) Line 191: “Use” has been corrected as lowercase.

(5) The syntax of the sentence “One RCT included inin our review” (lines 221-223) has been improved.

(6) The journal abbreviation in line 278 has been corrected.

Reviewer 02453015

(1) We performed the search strategy strictly, and no study excluded in languages other English.

(2) We agree that the Cochrane Collaboration’s tool for assessing risk of bias is highly recommended, we have cited it.

(3) We have added the funnel plot.

(4) We have updated the flow chart in Figure 1.

(5) Some items already shown in Forest plots have been deleted in Table 3.

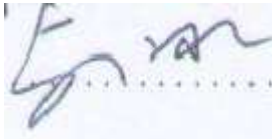
(6) The heterogeneity of Figure 4 is too high. This may due to the study by Stefanidis G et al (ref.24).

Because mechanical lithotripsy was applied to all the patients of EST group but none of EST plus LBD group, which could not accurately reflect the use of mechanical lithotripsy.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Bing Hu', is positioned above a horizontal dotted line.

Bing Hu, MD. PhD

Professor, Head of Endoscopy Center

Eastern Hepatobiliary Hospital

Second Military Medical University

225 Changhai Road

Shanghai 200438

China

Tel: 86-21-81875221

Fax: 86-21-35030072

Email: drhubing@aliyun.com