

Dear reviewer and editor

Thank you for your suggestions. We hope our article will be accepted and be published. Thank you again for everything.

Responses for the editors' suggestion are as follow.

Answer: We would thank the suggestions from the editors. We modified the format of article according to the request including

- 1) Change the word font to 12pt Book Antiqua and 1.5 line spacing.
- 2) Change the content of AIM with beginning with "To.." and less than 20 words.
- 3) Change the format of title of the article series according to the request.
- 4) Add the section of "article highlights".
- 5) Upload all the figure to a new Powerpoint file named "Manuscript No.52324-image files.ppt".
- 6) Check the format of reference and make sure the PMID and DOI.
- 7) Check the format of authors and institutes.

Responses for the reviewers' suggestion are as follow.

Reviewer's code: 02551692

Reviewer's country: Italy

Comments: We would like to thank Zhang S. et al. for having required our review of their retrospective work " Effectiveness and Safety of a Laparoscopic Training System Combined With Modified Reconstruction Techniques For Total Laparoscopic Distal Gastrectomy". The manuscript has been read and valued thoroughly in every aspect. The use of the english language is grammatically correct, understandable and fluent. The work is more interesting, above all in his results, and describes methods in adequate details through an accurate data analysis and an appropriate description of laparoscopic technique used. Post-operative complications are also well described. It is organized and presented coherently, and authors have prepared the manuscript according to the appropriate research methods and reporting. This study, with its intent of forming young surgeons on Total Laparoscopic Distal Gastrectomy (TLDG), wants to demonstrate that trainees can perform TLDG safely and feasibly with a correct GI

reconstruction through the use of a simple reconstructive technique, and appropriate lymphadenectomy through an educational system. Results and their relevance to the literature are stated in a clear and definite manner. The manuscript interprets findings adequately and appropriately highlighting key points clearly and concisely; in fact: diagrams, tables and figures have good quality and illustration and are clear to express their content. The discussion is accurate and discusses sufficiently the paper's scientific relevance to clinical practice, and cites important and authoritative references correctly. Results and their relevance to the literature are stated in a clear and definite manner. The Achilles heel of the study remains the short duration of the follow-up, which does not offer sufficient data on cancer safety and long-term results, given that the latest data are very recent (June 2019). This topic was however represented in the work by the authors themselves.

Answer: We would thank the suggestions from the reviewer. We agreed with the opinion of the review which is the limitation of the study remains the short duration of the follow-up. In the end of the article, we declare our study's limitation. We indicate that because of the length of follow up, our study did not provide enough data to show conclusions about oncologic safety and long-term outcomes. We will continue to follow up these patients as much time as is possible.