

Dear Editors and Reviewers:

Thank you for your letter and for the reviewers' comments concerning our manuscript entitled "Combined endoscopy/laparoscopy/PTBD, hybrid techniques in gastrointestinal and biliary diseases" (ID: 54962). Those comments are all valuable and very helpful for revising and improving our paper, as well as the important guiding significance to our researches. We have studied comments carefully and have made corrections which we hope meet with approval. The main corrections in the paper and responses to the reviewers' comments are as follows:

Reviewer #1:

1. Response to comment: There is no mention of the most commonly used "spot" endoscopic tattooing with sterile carbon black suspension.

Response: We are very sorry for our negligence of not mentioning endoscopic tattooing in the "Localization of GI tumors" part. And now we have added a brief introduction of the endoscopic tattooing method.

2. Response to comment: The manuscript is interesting, but does not meet the expectations of the reader. In the last decade, many articles with similar content have been published.

Response: We are sorry that this manuscript does not meet the expectations of the reader. However, to the best of our knowledge, we first reviewed the hybrid technique which includes laparoscopic and endoscopic cooperative surgery, air leak test by intraoperative endoscopy, magnetic compression anastomosis, the rendezvous technique and laparoscopic assisted ERCP. The review may provide a new perspective to the development of endoscopy in the future.

We appreciate the Editors/Reviewers' work earnestly, and hope that the corrections will meet with approval.

Once again, thank you very much for your comments and suggestions.

Yours sincerely,
Bing Hu