

Cover letters

April 25th, 2021

Dear Dr. Lian-Sheng Ma, Science Editor, Company Editor-in-Chief, Editorial Office

Thank you for your April 7th letter according to our manuscript entitled **“Safety of pancreatic surgery with special reference to antithrombotic therapy: A systematic review of the literature” (Manuscript No. 60998).**

I prepared herein our revised manuscript including figures. Our incorporation of the reviewer’s suggestion is as follows:

- 1) According to the reviewer’s suggestion, we modified the description for search engines used for our research as follows; (Abstract) “... Published articles between 2013 and 2020 were searched from PubMed and Google Scholar, and studies involving pancreatic surgery and ATT were included after careful review of each study.”
- 2) As the reviewer recommended to describe the method for systematic review such as PRISMA guideline, we added the description about PRISMA guidelines which we actually used for our research. We added the comments as follows; (Method section) “... The review followed the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analysis Protocols (PRISMA-P) 2015 checklist. 15 Articles were included when published in the peer review journal. The eligible studies included randomized clinical trials, prospective or retrospective cohort studies, or case-control studies; guidelines, review articles, or case series/reports were not included.... “
- 3) According to the reviewer’s suggestion, we remove the figure 1 (recommended perioperative management protocol) and its reference.
- 4) The reviewer suggested that we should mention other possible confounding factors such as obesity, but in the included articles the researchers focused on antithrombotics and used propensity score-matched analysis or multivariate analysis to alleviate the effects of confounding factors. So in the current systematic review we focused on

the relationship between the antithrombotics and PPH after pancreatic surgery and no additional comments were added.

- 5) According to the Science Editor's suggestion, we added the "Article Highlights" section at the end of the main text.
- 6) According to the Science Editor's suggestion, we removed the redundant references from our institution, and reduced the self-referencing rate to less than 10%.
- 7) According to the Science Editor's suggestion, we also added PMID and DOI numbers to the reference list.
- 8) We added "Article Highlights" part and also added information about PMID and DOI in the REFERENCE part according to the editor's indication.

I believe the manuscript has been improved satisfactory and hope it will be accepted for publication in World Journal of Clinical Cases.

Sincerely,

Dr. Takahisa Fujikawa, M.D., Ph.D., FACS