

Reviewer #1:

Scientific Quality: Grade C (Good)

Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)

Conclusion: Minor revision

Specific Comments to Authors:

- Attending to the reviewer comments we performed a minor language polishing and a more profound review of all manuscript, including adding a “Methods” and “Results” sections for this literature review.
- We clarified in the “Background” section: “The diagnosis is confirmed by endoscopic examination” → The diagnosis can be confirmed by endoscopy with or without histologic examination, as imaging findings are usually nonspecific.
- We clarified in the “Background” section: “Almost all patients” → Virtually all patients will experience some clinical manifestation of acute RP during their pelvic RT treatment.
- In the “Background” section: “A cumulative dose of RT <45 Gy is associated with a lower risk of late RT lesion, in contrast to what is observed for doses >70 Gy” → We added two articles to support clearly these cut-off values for ionising radiation. Do NL, Nagle D, Poylin VY. Radiation proctitis: current strategies in management. *Gastroenterol Res Pract*. 2011;2011:917941. doi: 10.1155/2011/917941. Epub 2011 Nov 17. PMID: 22144997; PMCID: PMC3226317 and Michalski JM, Gay H, Jackson A, Tucker SL, Deasy JO. Radiation dose-volume effects in radiation-induced rectal injury. *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys*. 2010 Mar 1;76(3 Suppl):S123-9. doi: 10.1016/j.ijrobp.2009.03.078. Erratum in: *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys*. 2019 Aug 1;104(5):1185. PMID: 20171506; PMCID: PMC3319467.
- We updated the citations “for the risk factors for radiation proctitis” and “differential diagnosis between radiation proctitis and other medical clinical conditions”.
- As suggested, we added a paragraph regarding the side effects of HBOT: “The mechanisms that result in HBOT beneficial effects can also cause side effects in some patients, primarily due to pressure and oxygen toxicity. However, when appropriate therapeutics protocols are applied, HBOT is a safe and low-risk intervention, with the adverse events being infrequent and typically not severe.
- As suggested, we updated the table with the different classifications for radiation proctitis, including “Vienna Rectoscopy Score” and the other one by “Langberg et al”
- As suggested, we include in the table “with the 27 case-series” a column with the information regarding RP severity/clinical picture;
- As suggested, and to be more clearly, we changed the figure related to the treatment algorithm.

Thank you so much in advance for your comments and suggestions that added great value to the final version of this manuscript.

Reviewer #2:

Scientific Quality: Grade C (Good)

Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)

Conclusion: Major revision

Specific Comments to Authors: 1.

- Attending to the reviewer comments we performed a minor language polishing and a more profound review of all manuscript structure, including adding a “Methods” and “Results” sections for this literature review. As suggested, these two new sections will increase the final methodology quality.
- We think that now it would be possible to check all the figures and tables, including the one that was unavailable to the reviewer in the earlier version.
- As suggested, we added the citation “Treatment Of Radiation Proctitis. Cooper JS, Hanley ME.2020 Aug 15. In: StatPearls [Internet]. Treasure Island (FL): StatPearls Publishing; 2021 Jan–PMID: 30726028

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