

February 07, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 6708-review.doc).

Title: Solid pseudopapillary tumor of pancreas in male patients: report of 16 cases.

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Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 6708

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:

(1) Please correct the sentence. P5 in line 7, followed by pancreatic head.

We have done so.

(2) Figure 3 should be omitted.

We have done so.

(3) Provide standard definitions in the methods section for the results presented in the manuscript (e.g. Clavien classification system for morbidity, 30-day vs.90-day mortality, ISPGS consensus definitions for pancreatic fistula)

We have added the standard definitions in the methods section.

(4) The “organ-preserving” concept is not standard. Almost all pancreatic operations are on some level an “organ-preserving” operation. To separate these operations out in the results and in Table 2 is slightly unclear. However, the authors are correct to point out in the discussion that less-than-radical operations are sufficient for this

mostly benign neoplastic process.

We have applied “non-radical operation” instead of the confusing word “organ-preserving operation”.

- (5) In Materials and Methods & table 2, I would just call the 2 groups “male” and “female” instead of Group 1 and Group 2.

We have done so.

- (6) As to the location of the tumors in Tab. 1, 23 (approx. 20%) cases are in the neck and only 8 (approx. 7%) cases are in the body and tail. However, according to Gray's Anatomy of the Human Body, for example, “It (Pancreas) is long and irregularly prismatic in shape; its right extremity, being broad, is called the head, and is connected to the main portion of the organ, or body, by a slight constriction, the neck; while its left extremity gradually tapers to form the tail.” So, the neck should be a small portion of the pancreas. What is the authors’ definition of pancreatic neck? Seemingly, these data need reconsideration based on authorized reference of pancreatic anatomy.

The definition of pancreatic neck was defined basing on the Gray's Anatomy of the Human Body. However, due to the limitation associated with retrospective study, our data concerning the location of SPTs were collected basing on the operative records and radiological image data.

- (7) There are typos and confusing words. For example, “using the nonparametric the Student’s t test, ---” (page 4), “pancreatic head (7 cases, 43.7%), followed by pancreatic head (5 cases, 31.3%),---” (page 5), “a1-antitrypsin” (page 8) in which “a”

should be alpha in Greek letter, "In the group 1, thirty-one patients (31%) manifested at least one of the biological behaviors listed above. There were 4 patients (25%) who suffered from malignant SPT." (page 8) in which "In the group 2" is needed in the second sentence.

We have corrected these typos and confusing words.

- (8) A few interesting cases may need more description. For example, one unresectable case (page 9) may need the reason for unresectability. One multiple SPT case may need more description and discussion

We have provided more detail for the cases mentioned above.

- (9) As the authors mentioned in the manuscript, a major problem of SPT is accuracy of its diagnosis. For example, endocrine tumor with central necrosis may be misdiagnosed as a small SPT. So, the question is, How accurate are the authors' diagnosis?

The final diagnosis of SPT is based on pathology and immunohistochemistry.

- (10) Among many articles of SPT, Huang HL, Shih SC, Chang WH, Wang TE, Chen MJ, Chan YJ.

Solid-pseudopapillary tumor of the pancreas: clinical experience and literature review. World

J Gastroenterol. 2005 Mar 7;11(9):1403-9. may be included in the references.

We have done so.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

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

Sincerely yours,

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