

ANSWERING REVIEWERS

December 4, 2013



Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: ESPS manuscript NO 6817 edited.doc).

Title: The Role of Laparoscopy in Rectal Cancer: A Review

Authors: Ido Mizrahi, M.D., Haggi Mazeh, M.D.

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 6817

Please note that this is an invited review (ID: 02550913)

We thank you and the reviewers for the thoughtful critique of our manuscript. We have addressed each of the specific comments (see below) and have amended the manuscript appropriately. We believe that the revised manuscript is improved compared to the original version and we hope that you will now find it suitable for publication.

Reviewer #1:

Excellent review. This review includes most updated data regarding the role of laparoscopy in rectal cancer.

Response: We thank the reviewer for the kind words.

Reviewer #2:

A well-done and extensive review about the current status of laparoscopic surgery in rectal carcinoma. A great number of different aspects are highlighted, e. g. morbidity & mortality, OR duration, conversion, intraoperative blood loss, length of hospital stay, bladder & sexual dysfunction, postoperative bowel function recovery as well as postoperative pain. Additionally also late complications as adhesion formation and incisional hernia rates were analysed. There are reference links in the text, which probably must be deleted.

Response: We would like to thank the reviewer for the appreciation of this manuscript. The references can be linked by the editorial staff as needed.

Reviewer #3:

Good review.

Response: We appreciate your review of our manuscript.

Administrator Requests:

1. *Please provide author contributions.*
2. *Please add a core tip paragraph to the text.*

Response: A section of author contributions (page 1) and core tip paragraph (page 3) have been added to the text, as requested.

We hope that you find this revised version suitable for publication in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any further questions.

Sincerely yours,

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