

January 16, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name : 6902-review.doc).

**Title:** Large balloon dilation post endoscopic sphincterotomy in removal of difficult common bile duct stones: a literature review

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**Name of Journal:** *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 6902

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 reviewers

- (1) Five articles have been included by mistake in our manuscript (Kocchar et al., Draganov et al., Martin-Arranz et al., Garcia-Cano et al. and Kim et al.), because of confusion between database evolutions and revisions of the manuscript. Thanks to reviewers, these articles have been excluded of global analysis, and table 1 has been corrected. Bang et al. describe dilation balloons inflated at least at 12 mm, this study has thus not been excluded.
- (2) This review deals with "difficult" bile duct stones, not only with large stones. The "INDICATIONS" chapter describes common indications of ESLBD: extraction large stones, but also multiple stones, which can be challenging too.
- (3) In the chapter "ADVERSE EVENTS", for overall AEs, we were referring to post-procedural complications (pancreatitis, bleeding, perforation, cholangitis). The sentence may be confusing. Thus, per-procedural complications have been added in this chapter, and a detailed table of AEs has been added too.
- (4) Study design for each reference has been added in table 1.
- (5) In the last sentence of the "PATIENT OUTCOMES" chapter, study population has been specified.
- (6) Reference to Hisatomi et al. article has been elaborated.
- (7) Balloon diameter after fistulotomy has been specified.
- (8) In the "size of the endoscopic sphincterotomy" chapter, the last sentence has been clarified.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

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

Sincerely Yours,

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