January 15, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 7546-review.doc).

Title: The treatment strategy for gallstone pancreatitis and the timing of cholecystectomy

Author: Chao Hu, Shiqiang Shen, Zubing Chen

Name of Journal: World Journal of Meta-Analysis

ESPS Manuscript NO: 7546

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) This paper is a narrative review and so it does not contain any meta-analysis of the clinical material.

According to the reviewer's opinion, we carried out a meta-analysis about the timing of cholecystectomy.

(2)The present organization of the abstract is excessively focused on the background, and in fact no information is provided in terms of results or conclusions.

The abstract has been reorganized and the results and conclusion has been added in.

(3)Page 4, lines 11 to 14, "....was higher compared with conservative management": Can the authors add some quantitative result (e.g. the relative risk) drawn from reference 15?

The relative risk (RR) =1.92, 95%ci: 0.86-4.32 P=0.11.

(4) **Please give the search strategy for collecting studies. And make a meta-analysis for these studies.**

The search strategy has been added in the manuscript and a meta-analysis about the timing of cholecystectomy had been carried out.

(5) **Page 3, line8. "The pathogenesis of gallstone pancreatitis (GSP) is still controversial now." should be "The theories of pathogenesis of gallstone pancreatitis (GSP) are still controversial now."**

"The pathogenesis of gallstone pancreatitis (GSP) is still controversial now." has been replaced by "The theories of pathogenesis of gallstone pancreatitis (GSP) are still controversial now."

(6) Page 3, line 19-22. The authors demonstrated that inflammation played an important role in the systemic complications of acute pancreatitis after listing the three controversial different theories. What's the relationship between inflammation and the three theories? Is inflammation different any of them or belongs to one of them?

The inflammatory mediators also played an important role in the systemic complications of acute pancreatitis. It's not belonging to the three theories.

(7) Page 3, line 26. "… gallstone pancreatitis including bowel rest, fluid resuscitation …" should be "… gallstone pancreatitis includes bowel rest, fluid resuscitation …"

"… gallstone pancreatitis including bowel rest, fluid resuscitation …" has been replaced by "… gallstone pancreatitis includes bowel rest, fluid resuscitation …"

(8) Page 3, line 28-29. "But what is different to other forms of pancreatitis, gallstone pancreatitis often requires surgery." Should be "But what is different to other forms of pancreatitis, for instance, gallstone pancreatitis often requires surgery."

"But what is different to other forms of pancreatitis, gallstone pancreatitis often requires surgery." has been replaced by "But what is different to other forms of pancreatitis, for instance, gallstone pancreatitis often requires surgery."

(9) Page 4, line 21. "A latest large samples retrospective cohort study" should be "A latest large-sample retrospective cohort study".

"large samples" has been replaced by "large-sample"

(10) Page 6, line 2. "A large sample (8631 patients) observational study" should be "A large-sample (8631 patients) observational study".

"A large sample" has been replaced by "A large-sample"

(11) Given the specific academic venue, we recommend to provide explicit details of your bibliographic search strategy and yield, summarize in some meta-analytic fashion your results

The search strategy and yield have been added in the manuscript and a meta-analysis about the timing of cholecystectomy had been carried out.

(12) **Apply throughout a score for the validity of the primary studies.**

The studies which was identified included a randomized controlled trial study and 3 retrospective studies. There is no scale of marks for retrospective studies. So we gave up scoring the sdudies.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of* Meta-Analysis.

Sincerely yours,

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