

ANSWERING REVIEWERS



August 25, 2012

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 8681-edited.doc).

Title: Preoperative colonoscopy through the colonic stent in patients with colorectal cancer obstruction

Author: Jin Su Kim, M.D., PhD¹., Kang Moon Lee, M.D., Ph D¹., Sang Woo Kim M.D., PhD¹., Eun Jung Kim, M.D¹., Chul-Hyun Lim, M.D¹., PhD¹., Seong Taek Oh, M.D., Ph.D²., Myung-Gyu Choi, M.D., Ph.D¹., Kyu Yong Choi, M.D., PhD¹.

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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). I'd like to know the proportion of obstruction in all colorectal cancer cases. How many colorectal cancer cases were treated in this period?

→ During the study period a total of 962 patients were diagnosed with colorectal cancer and 107 had obstruction.

(2) Success rate of stent placement was also important, but the authors included only successful cases in this study. Please describe the patient flow of this study

→ The main objective of this article was to look at the feasibility of preoperative colonoscopy in patients with successful stent insertion. Therefore we did not describe the success rate of stent placement. However, as per your suggestion, we have included the patient flow in Figure 1.

(3) The authors described that preoperative colonoscopy was performed 1 or 2 days before surgery. It meant they could not confirm pathological results of endoscopically resected lesions before surgery?

→ We thank the reviewer for the excellent point. When the lesions were small in size and had a benign appearance, we performed surgery as planned. However, when the lesion looked to have an advanced histology, we put off surgery until histologic results came out. This has been inserted into the manuscript.

4) Please clarify the detail of adenomas detected in preoperative colonoscopy, because small adenomas did not change treatment plan for such patients. The incidence of advanced histology, such as advanced adenoma or cancer, was clinically important.

→ **We thank you for your excellent comment. We have added the detail of adenomas as Table 3 in the text.**

5) The authors concluded the expansion diameter of the stent was an independent factor predicting successful preoperative colonoscopy, but the diameter of the stent was not predicting factor but the result of stent placement. Therefore, this information was not useful to select the good candidate of stenting before procedure

→ **As previously mentioned, the aim of this article was not to select the good candidates of stenting but who had successful preoperative colonoscopy among those with successful stent placement. Therefore, the authors believe that our conclusion has some merit.**

6) Gastroscope was credited as GIF-H260AL. Is this correct?

→ **GIF-H260 is correct and this has been corrected in the manuscript.**

7) In the results section, the authors described that they used Cox's proportional hazard model for multivariate analysis. I think logistic regression analysis is correct.

→ **We once again thank the reviewer for the excellent point. Logistic regression analysis is correct and we have corrected the manuscript.**

3 References and typesetting were corrected

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

Sincerely yours, Sang Woo Kim M.D., PhD



Gastroenterology, Seoul St. Mary's Hospital

E-mail: viper@catholic.ac.kr

Phone: 82-2-2258-6021

Fax: 82-2-2258-2055