

ANSWERING REVIEWERS



March 11, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 2429-review.doc).

Title: Risk factors and surgical outcomes for spontaneous rupture of BCLC stage A and stage B hepatocellular carcinoma: a case-control study

Author: Jing Li, Liang Huang, Caifeng Liu, Jie Cao, Jianjun Yan, Feng Xu, Mengchao Wu, Yiqun Yan

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 8770

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) We change the conclusion "Once the risk factors were determined, we can adopt some effective measures such as bandage of the abdomen to prevent tumor rupture in these patients." into "Once the risk factors were determined, the next step we want to do is that whether we can adopt some measures to prevent tumor rupture in these patients."

(2) In our hospital, which is a hepatobiliary special hospital without an emergency department, most HCC patients with ruptured tumors were admitted during the routine work in outpatient department. The ruptured tumors were usually indicated by the history of sudden abdominal pain, and confirmed with image diagnosis or even only in operation. Therefore, this study included a large series of HCC patients with ruptured tumors which were classified as stage A and stage B in the Barcelona Clinic Liver Cancer (BCLC) classification. Due to the different inclusion criteria, the results in our study is different from that of other previous studies.

(3) In our study, the relationship between tumor location and spontaneous rupture of HCC was identified at the first time, which is the highlighted content of our study. The survival time and predictive factors of survival is just mentioned in the study.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

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

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jing Li'.

Yiqun Yan, MD.

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