

Dear Dr. Andrzej S. Tarnawski,

Thank you for your letter and the opportunity to revise our paper on ‘Impact of B-mode-ultrasound-guided transhepatic and transperitoneal cholecystostomy tube placement on laparoscopic cholecystectomy.’ The suggestions offered by the reviewers have been immensely helpful in improving the quality of our manuscript, and we also appreciate your insightful comments on revising the structure and other aspects of the paper.

In summary,

- 1- There were some mistakes in the reporting of our findings both in the tables and in the main text, and these mistakes were corrected in the revised manuscript, after the tremendous help of the reviewers.
- 2- We have also added a sentence in the Introduction section highlighting the factors that are involved when deciding which approach (PHGD vs. PPGD) to take in patients with acute cholecystitis.
- 3- We have also added the full names of the abbreviations reported in the Tables, and corrected the symbols that were used based on the Editor’s guidance.
- 4- In the Methods section, we described how many surgeons carried out the different procedures.
- 5- The English structure of our manuscript was revised by a native English speaker and all encountered mistakes were corrected.

I have included the reviewer comments immediately after this letter and responded to them individually, indicating exactly how we addressed each concern or problem and describing the changes we have made. The revisions have been approved by all authors and I have again been chosen as the corresponding author. All of the edits and changes that have been applied to the revised manuscript can be tracked through the “Track changes” option in the word file, and the revised manuscript is attached to this message.

We hope the revised manuscript will better suit the *World Journal of Gastroenterology* but are happy to consider further revisions, and we thank you and the reviewers for your continued interest in our research.

Sincerely,

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Editor's Comments:

Comment 1: I found the authors did not write the “article highlight” section. Please write the “article highlights” section at the end of the main text

Response: Thanks a lot for your help in reminding us to include this part in the main manuscript. We have added the “article highlight” section at the end of the revised manuscript just before the “References” section.

Comment 2: please don't include any *, #, †, §, ‡, ¥, @....in your manuscript; Please use superscript numbers for illustration; and for statistical significance, please use superscript letters.

Response: Thanks a lot for your help and for highlighting this point. We have removed all of the symbols that we have used and replaced them with superscript numbers for illustrations and superscript letters for statistical significance as per your suggestion. Thanks

Comment 3: Statistical significance is expressed as aP <0.05, bP <0.01 (P > 0.05 usually does not need to be denoted). If there are other series of P values, cP <0.05 and dP <0.01 are used, and a third series of P values is expressed as eP <0.05 and fP <0.01.

Response: Thanks a lot for your guidance and help in improving the quality and structure of our manuscript. Your suggestion has been applied to all of our Tables, where significant p-values were given a superscript letter based on the degree of significance (<0.05 and <0.01).

Reviewer 1 (03285323)

Comment 1: The authors have been reported the impact of B-mode-ultrasound-guided transhepatic (PHGD) and transperitoneal cholecystostomy (PPGD) tube placement on laparoscopic cholecystectomy (LC). They have concluded that the B-mode-ultrasound-guided PHGD is superior to PPGD followed by LC for treatment of acute calculous cholecystitis, with

shorter operating time, minimal amount of intraoperative bleeding and short length of hospital stay. In general, this is a well-planned and designed study. However, there are some conflicts in its written which is marked on the text.

The authors made their best efforts to revise their articles. However, my recommendations seem to have been ignored, possibly due to the confusion that arose.

Response: Thanks a lot for your efforts in improving our manuscript. Your comment and suggestions have been carefully noted, and we have revised our manuscript in accordance with your edits, and the English structure was revised again by a native English speaker to improve the writing of our paper.

Reviewer 2 (00006518)

Comment 1: Accept

Response: Thanks.