

Dear Editor,

Thank you for reviewing our manuscript entitled "Practice, training and safety of laparoscopic surgery in low and middle-income countries (LMICs)."

It is a systemic review about the status of minimally invasive surgery in low and middle-income countries. This review summarises the undergoing of laparoscopic surgery in LMICs and the difficulties they faced as well as some suggestions for solutions. We believe it will provide your readers with an overview of laparoscopic surgery in LMICs and inspire future collaborative work between surgeons in LMICs and high-income countries. Our responses from the reviewers are below:

Reviewers' comments:

Reviewer's code: 02457550, 02573214: Thank you for your comments. The language revisions have been made.

Reviewer's code: 02554592: Thank you for your comment regarding our conclusion. We have revised the conclusion however we believe it is important to emphasise how LMICs can progress in developing laparoscopic surgery through collaborative efforts with local governments, high income countries and industry.

Reviewer's code 02552424: Thank you for your comment. The manuscript has been revised to read better and errors corrected. The review presents the successes and inhibitors of laparoscopic surgery in LMICs particularly with regards to safety and training and potential solutions to these.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Maryam Alfa-Wali

BSc (Honours) MBBCh MRCS DIC MEd PhD