



ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology

ESPS manuscript NO: 30433

Title: Introduction of laparoscopic gastrectomy for gastric cancer in a Western tertiary referral centre: a prospective cost analysis during the learning curve

Reviewer's code: 03669424

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CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

An interesting manuscript describing cost analysis for laparoscopic gastric cancer surgery. It contains an important message for gastric cancer surgeons, to provide proof in favor of laparoscopic surgery for fellow surgeons, hospital directory boards and insurance companies. Nice short and concise manuscript. The second alinea of the results section contains an unclear message in the last five lines: When equal sized groups (i.e., 55 open versus 52 laparoscopic gastrectomies) were compared, total admission costs were significantly lower in the laparoscopy group, 2097 (±4420) versus 4611 (±7991), p=0.048. Costs of total admission difference between was smaller at 8187(±4868) for laparoscopic patients versus 7915 (±8653) for patients who underwent open surgery, p=0.843. What is the message from the costs of total admission difference? Between what? This sentence might be omitted? Can the authors provide any data on the experience of surgeons? They only mention two very experienced surgeons for the laparoscopic surgery. What is this experience? What about to surgeons that performed the open surgery? Where these the same surgeons? Or older surgeons with more experience in open surgery than in laparoscopic surgery? Can the authors comment on even



BAISHIDENG PUBLISHING GROUP INC

8226 Regency Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588, USA

Telephone: +1-925-223-8242

Fax: +1-925-223-8243

E-mail: bpgoffice@wjgnet.com

<http://www.wjgnet.com>

further cost reduction on the long term as wound problems and hernia might be reduced by laparoscopic surgery.