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Column: Minireviews

Title: Choledochal Cysts: Similarities and Differences Between Asian and Western Countries

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Reviewer code: 03251421, and 00070310

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Please find the additionally revised manuscript entitled, “Choledochal Cysts: Similarities and Differences Between Asian and Western Countries”. The authors appreciate the reviewers’ comments and suggestions and we have addressed these comments in the cover letter as well as the text. Thank you for your acceptance to publish this manuscript.

Sincerely,

Richard Kozarek, MD

Reviewer #1: This manuscript has reviewed similarities and differences of choledochal cysts. between asian and western countries. This paper is well written, and will be acceptable. However, it will require one revision before publication.

1. Please show how to select papers in this review.

Paper included in this study were selected by conducting a PubMed search. The authors appreciate that extensive literature on choledochal cyst, especially for Asia spanning many decades, but since this review aims at giving a more contemporary perspective credence was given to more contemporary articles, less than 20 years, wherever possible. Less recent literature was cited where the articles was considered seminal e.g classification systems or where more contemporary evidence was lacking. Finally, since this is a summary paper, not a meta-analysis the article search methodology was not included in the original article.

2, I cannot find Table 1.

Please see revised manuscript

Reviewer #2: This paper reviews the similarities and differences between Asian and Western countries in choledochal cysts (CCs). The contents are excellent. CCs are usually classified into five types and several subtypes (Todani modification). The authors do not review the subtypes.

Although, CCs are also classified according to certain subtypes e.g IVa and IVb we believe this review provides a more global picture in regards to CC disease and adequate comparison of the overarching issues in CC disease between Asian and Western populations.

Furthermore, such granular analysis of subtypes would only add more complexity to a topic that does not have the strongest evidence. The Western studies are mostly retrospective cohort studies that rarely discuss CC disease in such granular detail.

The authors report that the management of CC disease continues to be driven by the Asian literature. Are there any differences in the efficacy of these treatments between Western and Eastern populations?

- *Please see section title ‘Management” paragraph 2 in revised manuscript*

The malignant risk is higher in Eastern patients. Is there overtreatment in the Western patients using Asian managements?

- *Please see section title ‘Management” paragraph 2 in revised manuscript*

The reference format is inconsistent with the authors guideline of the journal.

- *These have been formatted appropriately in the revised manuscript*