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ESPS PEER REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS manuscript NO: 13977

Title: Surgery for obstructed defecation syndrome - is there an ideal technique

Reviewer code: 00043099

Science editor: Yuan Qi

Date sent for review: 2014-09-11 21:06

Date reviewed: 2014-09-15 06:10

| CLASSIFICATION | LANGUAGE EVALUATION | RECOMMENDATION | CONCLUSION |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing | Google Search: | <input type="checkbox"/> Accept |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Existing | <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"/> No records | <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected | BPG Search: | <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor | | <input type="checkbox"/> Existing | <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> No records | |

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is an excellent editorial / mini review and I concur wholeheartedly with the balanced view offered by the authors, who have delicately negotiated a field replete with strong opinions and relatively limited evidence. The transperineal approach to rectocele repair has its devotees, but is rarely employed nowadays. Perhaps this is worthy of a comment? The recent review by the group from the Royal London (lead by Charles Knowles) on defecating proctography in Colorectal Disease this year might also be worth a mention for its comprehensive overview of the role of radiological imaging. Accepting the limitations of the word count for this kind of article, this is a relatively comprehensive review and the authors are to be congratulated.



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ESPS PEER REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS manuscript NO: 13977

Title: Surgery for obstructed defecation syndrome - is there an ideal technique

Reviewer code: 00050232

Science editor: Yuan Qi

Date sent for review: 2014-09-11 21:06

Date reviewed: 2014-09-15 23:06

| CLASSIFICATION | LANGUAGE EVALUATION | RECOMMENDATION | CONCLUSION |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing | Google Search: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Existing | <input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing | <input type="checkbox"/> No records | <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected | BPG Search: | <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor | | <input type="checkbox"/> Existing | <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> No records | |

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript addresses the surgical treatment of the obstructed defecation syndrome. This is one of the most polemical aspects of the treatment of the disease mentioned because the diagnostic evaluation methods are not efficient and the surgery outcomes are not successful to solve the patient's complaint. The Editorial is well designed and draws attention to the problem described above and therefore deserves to be published.



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ESPS PEER REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS manuscript NO: 13977

Title: Surgery for obstructed defecation syndrome - is there an ideal technique

Reviewer code: 02445426

Science editor: Yuan Qi

Date sent for review: 2014-09-11 21:06

Date reviewed: 2014-10-14 14:18

| CLASSIFICATION | LANGUAGE EVALUATION | RECOMMENDATION | CONCLUSION |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing | Google Search: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Existing | <input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing | <input type="checkbox"/> No records | <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected | BPG Search: | <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor | | <input type="checkbox"/> Existing | <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> No records | |

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Riss et al reviewed procedures and outcomes of surgeries for obstructed defecation syndrome. In general, this review article is concise and well-organized. The authors clearly pointed out pros and cons of each procedure for treating this difficult condition. Notably, the authors emphasized that not only defecation but also overall pelvic floor symptoms were to be evaluated. This paper provides useful information for surgeons in this field.



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ESPS PEER REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS manuscript NO: 13977

Title: Surgery for obstructed defecation syndrome - is there an ideal technique

Reviewer code: 00042484

Science editor: Yuan Qi

Date sent for review: 2014-09-11 21:06

Date reviewed: 2014-09-13 10:46

| CLASSIFICATION | LANGUAGE EVALUATION | RECOMMENDATION | CONCLUSION |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing | Google Search: | <input type="checkbox"/> Accept |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Existing | <input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication |
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| | | <input type="checkbox"/> No records | |

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This Editorial covers an important clinical problem and does so in an even handed way. The topics from assessment to treatment are addressed fairly but in no real depth and without any real direction for the reader. The place of non operative management even when there is an identified 'anatomical disorder' is not emphasised strongly enough as the condition is almost always multifactorial and the aim of treatment is symptom improvement rather than anatomical correction. Most patients with a rectocele and ODS can be adequately managed without surgically correcting the rectocele.