

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 49399

Title: Application of indocyanine green-enhanced near-infrared fluorescence-guided imaging in laparoscopic lateral pelvic lymph node dissection for middle-low rectal cancer

Reviewer's code: 00043396

Reviewer's country: Singapore

Science editor: Ruo-Yu Ma

Reviewer accepted review: 2019-05-28 02:52

Reviewer performed review: 2019-05-28 03:04

Review time: 1 Hour

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is a nice study of the authors technique and adds to the current pool of literature regarding the use of ICG in LPND in laparoscopic surgery for low rectal cancers. The



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paper however requires extensive editorial revision for English usage and grammatical errors.

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

Google Search:

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

BPG Search:

- ☐ The same title
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- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 49399

Title: Application of indocyanine green-enhanced near-infrared fluorescence-guided imaging in laparoscopic lateral pelvic lymph node dissection for middle-low rectal cancer

Reviewer's code: 00536689

Reviewer's country: Italy

Science editor: Ruo-Yu Ma

Reviewer accepted review: 2019-05-28 18:04

Reviewer performed review: 2019-05-30 13:49

Review time: 1 Day and 19 Hours

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

I read the manuscript with great interest. The topic of the study is very current. Lateral lymphadenectomy improves long-term results in patients with malignant



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extraperitoneal rectal cancer. The number of patients studied is not high. The use of fluorescence improves the results. The introduction and the materials and methods are well illustrated. The discussion is well structured. The figures are exhaustive.

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

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BPG Search:

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- ☐ No

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 49399

Title: Application of indocyanine green-enhanced near-infrared fluorescence-guided imaging in laparoscopic lateral pelvic lymph node dissection for middle-low rectal cancer

Reviewer's code: 00073640

Reviewer's country: Slovenia

Science editor: Ruo-Yu Ma

Reviewer accepted review: 2019-05-27 09:37

Reviewer performed review: 2019-05-30 18:18

Review time: 3 Days and 8 Hours

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript is brief and well structured, the topic is interesting, figures and tables are well done and very helpful. However, the manuscript needs a great deal of English



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polishing. I also suggest improving the abstract. At the end of the discussion section there is text, which could be used to improve the abstract (Research background, motivation, methods, results). In addition, I have noticed that authors mentioned that patients were systematically reviewed from October 2017 to March 2019 - it is mentioned at the end of the manuscript (after discussion -research methods). I advise to include this data in Materials and methods section. Results show, that the only significant difference between both methods was lower blood loss and larger amount of LPLN harvest. No difference among other parameters and complications. I have not noticed any information about follow up and potential recurrence of the disease. Could you please explain, why the amount of LPLN harvest is important? I suggest to improve the background of the manuscript and significance of the study.

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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 49399

Title: Application of indocyanine green-enhanced near-infrared fluorescence-guided imaging in laparoscopic lateral pelvic lymph node dissection for middle-low rectal cancer

Reviewer's code: 03721686

Reviewer's country: Romania

Science editor: Ruo-Yu Ma

Reviewer accepted review: 2019-05-30 19:14

Reviewer performed review: 2019-06-02 21:13

Review time: 3 Days and 1 Hour

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> General
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In this observational and feasibility study, the authors proposed indocyanine green visualized with near-infrared camera system to guide the detection of laparoscopic

lateral pelvic lymph node in patients with middle-low rectal cancer. They have also included possible challenges and limitations of their study. The subject is of interest for surgeons regarding completeness of surgery, safety, as well as reducing the local recurrence rate. However, lack of long term follow up might be also a source of bias for the local recurrence rate. This manuscript describe methods in adequate detail. Another preliminary study on a similar topic was written by Noura, Shingo et al (2009). Feasibility of a Lateral Region Sentinel Node Biopsy of Lower Rectal Cancer Guided by Indocyanine Green Using a Near-Infrared Camera System. Annals of surgical oncology. 17. 144-51. 10.1245/s10434-009-0711-2. , but on a smaller group of patients. Although the manuscript is useful, the careful proofreading and language polishing are needed. Page 3 –“2.1 Patient” section- are the diameters expressed in mm or cm? “The assessment criteria were as follows: (1) $\geq 0.7\text{mm}$ in short diameter; (2) $\geq 0.5\text{mm} \leq 0.7\text{mm}$ in short diameter with inhomogeneous or intense enhancement;” Statistical analysis I did not check.

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[Y] No

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Manuscript NO: 49399

Title: Application of indocyanine green-enhanced near-infrared fluorescence-guided imaging in laparoscopic lateral pelvic lymph node dissection for middle-low rectal cancer

Reviewer's code: 03475120

Reviewer's country: Japan

Science editor: Ruo-Yu Ma

Reviewer accepted review: 2019-05-28 00:28

Reviewer performed review: 2019-06-10 02:52

Review time: 13 Days and 2 Hours

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
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			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

1. Sample size was small. 2. Based on TNM staging, T factor and N factor are shown in Table separately. They may be informative for journal readers.



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