

March 1, 2020

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name : 53799-review.doc) .

Title: Curved ablation of hepatocellular carcinoma: report of two cases

Author: Nan Cao, HuaiJie Cai, Xi-Xi Sun, De-Lin Liu, Bin Huang

Name of Journal: World Journal of Clinical Cases

ESPS Manuscript NO : 53799

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviews:

1. Format has been updated.
2. Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewers

Reviewer #1:

Comment 1: Thank you so much for the opportunity of the review of the manuscript entitled “Curved ablation of hepatocellular carcinoma: report of two cases”. A curved needle may be useful for us, if it can punctuate the tumor locating behind the portal vein.

Revision 1: We thank the reviewer for this comment.

Comment 2: Major Regarding the curved needle, how to make this device? By authors? By manufacture? Authors should explain it in detail.

Revision 2: We thank the reviewer for this comment. This bending

needle is designed by the author and commissioned by the manufacturer. The patent is being approved.

Comment 3: How to decide the puncture line to punctuate the accurate punctuation of the targeted hepatic lesions? Authors describe them in Discussion section. However, it may be difficult to understand by readers. If possible, please show us actual ultrasound images especially in case 2. This case is very difficult for us to punctuate it using normal RFA needle.

Revision 3: We thank the reviewer for this comment. We describe them in Discussion section. The figure 6 shows how this technique works, and fig .3 E and fig .4 B show the needle path during ablation.

Comment 4: Minors 1. Figures explaining a curved needle are not sufficient. Authors should show actual ultrasound images. 2. Regarding left side Figure 5 (case 1): This image is almost the same as seen the right side of the Figure 2. Please re-check it. 3. Regarding right side Figure 5 (case 2): Authors should indicate the MRI image before treatment. We cannot evaluate the efficacy of RFA using the curved needle.

Revision 4: We thank the reviewer for this comment. The figure has been modified.

Comment 5: Discussion section “The development of liver cancer is

slow”. It takes a lot of time to become a pathologically advanced liver cancer such as HCC. Sometimes, growth of HCC is very fast. Please revise the sentence to avoid misunderstanding of readers.

Revision5: We thank the reviewer for this comment. The sentence has been revised.

Reviewer #2:

Comment 1: the manuscript demonstrates that guided curved ultrasound ablation is helpful in the treatment of liver cancer.

Revision 1: We thank the reviewer for this comment.

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in World Journal of Clinical Cases.

Sincerely yours,

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