



Washington Hospital Center

MedStar Health

June 8, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: RevWJG6.14).

Title: Development of Minimally Invasive Techniques for Management of Medically-Complicated Obesity

Authors: Farzin Rashti, Ekta Gupta, Suzan Ebrahimi, Timothy R. Shope, Timothy R. Koch, and Christopher J. Gostout

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 11024

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of the reviewers.

Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewers.

Reviewer 1:

- 1) Asked for the addition of a section on leptin and adiponectin related to their alterations after bariatric surgery: this has been added.

- 2) Asked for addition of a reference for the global trend in increase in mean body mass index: this has been added.
- 3) Asked for a reference for the number of bariatric surgeries performed in 2003: this has been added.
- 4) Asked for the addition of a short explanation why adjustable gastric banding is becoming less favored: this has been added.
- 5) Asked for an addition about appetite reduction after adjustable gastric banding; this has been added.
- 6) Asked for a rewrite with regards to the section on the worldwide frequency of bariatric surgery: this section has been fully rewritten as requested.
- 7) Asked about the organization of Figure 1: the legend for Figure 1 has been rewritten to indicate that the top of the figure bariatric procedures are restrictive procedures while the bottom of the figure bariatric procedures have features of both food restriction as well as malabsorption. As requested by the reviewer, the abbreviations for common bariatric procedures have been added to the Figure legend.
- 8) As requested by the reviewer, the abbreviation FDA has been fully written out in the revised manuscript.
- 9) As requested by the reviewer, "Aspiration Therapy" is now in bold text in the revised manuscript.

Reviewer 2: provided no suggestions for revision.

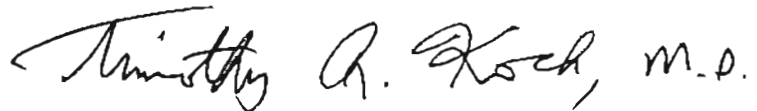
Reviewer 3:

- 1) Asks about gut microbiota after bariatric surgery. We have added a section to discuss weight loss and gut microbiota as requested by the reviewer. We have added a separate section to the revised manuscript describing the effects of bariatric surgery on the gut microbiota.
- 2) Asks about the use of the abbreviation PYY for peptide YY. This abbreviation has been removed and peptide YY is fully spelled out in the revised manuscript.
- 3) Asks about the abbreviation FDA. This abbreviation has been removed and Food and Drug Administration is fully written out in the revised manuscript.

References were corrected in the revised manuscript.

Thank you again for consideration of our manuscript for publication in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Timothy R. Koch, M.D." The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Timothy" being the most prominent.

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