

ANSWERING REVIEWERS

June 14th, 2014

Dear Editor,



Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name:) 10968-edited.docx

Title: Current Surgical Treatment Strategies for Hepatocellular Carcinoma in North America

Author: Adeel S Khan, Katherine J Fowler, William C Chapman

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 10968

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers
Reviewer 1 suggestions cover 1-6 while those from second reviewed are covered under 7. Editors recommendations are covered under 8
All changes are highlighted in yellow

- 1) In abstract, the last sentence "These loco-regional modalities can also be used" is not really related to the review topic. Can consider to revise or delete it
ACTION TAKEN: Deleted
- 2) In Diagnosis section, "PET scan has limited role in HCC staging...". It is not correct in the setting of new Dual tracers PET (FDG and C-acetate PET). Please kindly revise and add the reference accordingly
ACTION TAKEN: Added under diagnosis section. References added (60-62)
- 3) In my opinion, the discussion point is whether hepatic resection is justified whether or not be it a laparoscopic or open, it has no consensus. No need to discuss them separately.
ACTION TAKEN: Separate section deleted. Information on laparoscopic HCC incorporated under hepatic resection
- 4) Please delete or revise "History" session, which is not relevant to the topic.
ACTION TAKEN: History section under Transplantation revised to be more HCC specific and title changed to "introduction".
- 5) Recently, there is a pilot study on HIFU as a bridging therapy and the authors may worth mention it.

ACTION TAKEN: Pilot study added under section of Pretreatment of patients on transplant list – bridge to transplant: Reference added (63)

- 6) Table 1 for Child-Pugh Classification is probably deletable.

ACTION TAKEN: deleted.

- 7) The updated guidelines from AASLD, ESAL and APASL on HCC treatment were not referred and compared.

Action taken. AASLD, ESAL and APASL guidelines mentioned and compared in introduction. References included (64-66)

- 8) EDITORS Recommendations

ACTIONS TAKEN: Abbreviations added. DOI and PMID added to references. Figure titles made uniform. Abbreviations added under abbreviation section and also separately under each table.

I hope this helps.

Please let me know if an additional changes or adjustments are required

Sincerely,

Adeel Khan