

Hyderabad, 18 November 2014

Editors

World Journal of Gastroenterology

Subject:       Review of ESPS Manuscript NO: 12630  
                  Columns: Systematic Review

Dear Sir,

We have received the reviewers' comments to our paper entitled "Per oral cholangiopancreatography in pancreaticobiliary diseases – Asian consensus statements" and wish to thank the editors and reviewers for their valuable feedback.

We are herewith submitting a corrected version of the paper in track-change and clean version. Also provided below is a point-by-point response to the reviewers' comments.

- **Language certificate letter:** The paper has eleven authors. Lead author, Dr Mohan Ramchandani, as well as seven more authors are from India where English is the official language. English is the native language for all eight authors from India. Another author is from Singapore where English is also an official language. Two other authors are from Thailand and Indonesia and are fluent English speakers. All eleven authors completed their training in medicine in English. Hence we believe no language certificate letter is needed.
- **Full name of authors:** All full names were now provided. No abbreviations remain in author names.
- **Author contributions:** The role of each author was specified in the *Author contribution* section.
- **Corresponding author:** The full address and the email of the corresponding author have been provided. Telephone and FAX numbers were provided in international dialing convention format.

- **Non-corresponding authors:** For all non-corresponding authors the full institution name, city, post code, province where applicable, and country were provided.
- **Abstract:** The length of the abstract was reduced from 251 to 246 words per the formatting guidance. The abstract section header format was also adjusted per guidance. Minor wording changes were made to accommodate the word count limit.
- **Core tip:** A core tip section of less than 100 words was added.
- **Abbreviations:** The fully spelled out wording is now provided in the main text at first appearance as well as in the list of abbreviations. Additionally, one abbreviation was removed from the list of abbreviations as it was not used in the text, namely IPMT or intraductal papillary mucinous tumors.
- **Number of references:** One comment stated that the total number of references should not exceed five. However, this paper being a report based on a systematic review, we could not follow this guidance. The number of references was left unaltered.
- **Order of references:** The first reference [ref 1] had not been provided before other references [ref 2-92] were provided. This error was corrected.
- **New references:** The reviewers pointed us to several references which we had not included and which were now added.
- **Comments:** A comments section was added in the requested format.
- **Peer Review:** One reviewer in particular requested that a few references be added. This was done. Another reviewer provided a detailed commentary in 15 points which were greatly appreciated by the authors. Suggestions made by this reviewer were incorporated throughout the revised document, with the exception of reviewer comment #2, #12 and #14. The authors wish to express their gratitude to the thorough peer review. Peer review was acknowledged in the Comments section.
  - Point #2 on “Asian” consensus and suggestion to change title of paper. *The authors agree with the reviewer that the authors originate from a limited number of countries in Asia. However, the authors have exposure to a wide range of Asian patients via participation in live workshops throughout the region. Therefore the authors feel it appropriate to leave the title of the article unchanged.*

- Point #12 on restructuring consensus statement to have separate section on complications. *The authors agree that an alternative to reporting on complications in individual consensus statement by indication for POCPS would have been to create a separate consensus statement on overall complication rates. However, this alternate consensus statement structure was not adopted as the current structure resulted from the work done by the consensus group as discussed in the Method section.*
  - Point #14 on POPS-guided EHL and LL being a reasonable alternative or adjunct to ESWL. *The authors thought this to already be discussed in the last paragraph of Consensus Statement #5 portion of the paper, and hence was not added again.*
- **Table 1 in Excel form:** Table 1 was provided in Word format in the main paper and an Excel version of Table 1 was attached.
  - **Table 4** was newly added per reviewers' suggestion. Subsequent table numbers were adjusted accordingly. An Excel version file is attached.

We trust that these edits and responses address the reviewers' valuable comments and hope it will lead to formal acceptance of our paper.

The BPG Copyright Assignment letter was corrected. In an inadvertent error it appears the name of Dr Amit Maydeo had been omitted from the author list and the signature page. We have corrected this omission.

The BPG Copyright Assignment letter is being signed by all authors as we speak and will be sent to you shortly.

Sincerely yours,

Dr D Nageshwar Reddy

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