

Dear Editors,

Thanks again for the invitation (Number ID: 03035837) to contribute our article to the World Journal of Gastroenterology. We are very pleased that the reviewers with considerable expertise showed great interest in our manuscript. According to the reviewer's comments and good advice of the science editor, we revised the manuscript. Thanks a lot for your consideration of our manuscript for publication in your journal.

We have also highlighted (with underlines selectively) changes made in the revised manuscript, to make it easier to review it.

COMMENTS of Reviewer 00505495

“the manuscript describes the mini invasive hepatic surgery. It is very interesting and supports the mini invasive surgery as feasible and safe also in hepatic surgery although this way is not yet largely accepted. This kind of mini invasive approach requires expert team of specialized centres. congratulations for having analyzed the topic”

Thanks a lot for the reviewer's good comments. We are very pleased and we will work harder to contribute more valuable papers for the experts in the future. We hope that what we have done would help the development of the mini invasive surgery in hepatic surgery in the near future.

COMMENTS of Reviewer 01441415

“This manuscript by Yao D, et al. comprehensively reviewed the current status of the application of stapling device for open, laparoscopic, and single-incision laparoscopic liver surgery. This manuscript described the feasibility and safety of the use regardless of surgical approach, however, the use is limited by the applied hepatectomy procedures. Overall, this manuscript is well-written in acceptable language quality and has a value for publication.”

Thanks very much for the reviewer's good comments. In this paper, we summarized the current status of application of stapling devices in liver surgery. We hope that what we have done would help the experts in hepatic surgery further understand usefulness of stapling devices and suitably extend the application of the stapling devices in liver surgery in the future. For the surgical approach, we may try to summarize in the next papers.

“Specific comments This manuscript has mentioned that the critical determinant of expansion of stapling device application in hepatic surgery is the pursue of further safety of liver parenchymal transection. The review of clinical studies makes it difficult to clarify the border of stapling device application, such as thickness of liver tissue. Therefore, I recommend to mention the basic research knowledge to compensate. For example, Tsukune M, et al. investigated in this regard using pig liver (Conf Proc IEEE Eng Med Biol Soc. 2014;2014:353-6) (PMID: 25569970).”

Thanks very much for the reviewer's good advice. We add the related content in the part of “FUTURE PROSPECTS FOR APPLICATION OF STAPLING DEVICES IN LAPAROSCOPIC LIVER SURGERY” on page 8. “When investigating the success rate of surgical stapling in *ex vivo* pig livers, tissue thickness had a greater effect on the success rate of surgical stapling than tissue stiffness had^[67]. If tissue thickness was 5–10 mm, the success

rate of surgical stapling was high, and if tissue thickness was > 10 mm, the success rate was affected by nonlinear viscoelastic parameters^[67].” In clinic, to dissect the thicker hepatic parenchyma, liver tissue can be fractured stepwise with a clamp and subsequently divided with endo-GIA vascular staplers, and in laparoscopic liver surgery, if well designed, a more suitable laparoscopic articulating liver tissue crushing device would be also helpful for using a stapler in parenchymal transection.

The science editor’s suggestions

“Please provide language a certificate letter from a professional English language editing company (Classification of the manuscript language quality evaluation is B). For manuscripts submitted by non-native speakers of English, please provide a language certificate from one of the professional English language editing companies mentioned in ‘The Revision Policies of BPG for Article.’ “

The revised manuscript has been edited by a native English speaking medical editor (Dr. Cathel Kerr) in the Jing-Yun Ma Expert Group for SCI Biomedical Editing and Publishing, and the edited paper has been confirmed to reach grade A in language evaluation for SCI journals. The language editing certificate could also be provided.

“The title must be informative, specific, and brief (Title should be no more than 10~12 words/60 bytes. Please revise it). Words should be chosen carefully for retrieval purposes. All nonfunctional words should be deleted, such as ‘the’, ‘studies on’, ‘observations of’, and ‘roles of’, etc.”

Thank you for your reminding. According to the requirements, the title has been changed into “Application of stapling devices in liver surgery: current status and future prospects”(12 words).

“Please read the core tip then provide the audio core tip. Acceptable file formats: .mp3, .wav, or .aiff. Maximum file size: 10 MB. To achieve the best quality, don’t allow to have the noise.”

The audio core tip without noise has been achieved, and will be submitted with the manuscript.

“The format should be like this, please revise others.”

Thank you for your reminding. The format has been all changed. The reference numbers in the text have been all superscripted in square brackets. We also confirm again that the references are numbered according to the citation order, and the order of citations in text is the same as in the references section.

“Table: No parts. Make Table 1A and Table 1B into Tables 1 and 2, or combine into one table. o graphics, boxes, or embedded tables. Please provide Word (preferred), Excel format. Tables must be primarily cell-based and fully editable.”

In the revised manuscript, we combined the two tables into one table, and it was in a word format. Tables in the revised manuscript are both primarily cell-based and fully editable.

In addition, we also review our revised manuscript by ourselves to ensure that our revised manuscript conforms to the journal style, according to the “Instructions for authors”.

Thank you very much for your attention and consideration,

Looking forward to your decision,
Sincerely yours,
Shudong Wu.