**Re: Manuscript NO: 80893; Feasibility and efficacy of endoscopic purse-string suture-assisted closure for mucosal defects induced by endoscopic manipulations (with video)**

**Dear Editor-in-Chief**

We would like to thank the editor and reviewers for their constructive comments and good suggestions. We have made point-by-point response at the bottom of the file and revised our manuscript accordingly. Thanks so much in advance for your kindly consideration.

Yours sincerely,

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**Responses to the comments of Reviewer #1 (code: 05260796):**

**Specific Comments to Authors:** The manuscript has been revised and is easier to understand. However, as I said before, in order to discuss the usefulness of P-EPSS, we should compare the results after deciding in advance whether to use P-EPSS or C-EPSS before endoscopic manipulations..

**Response:** Thanks for your kindly suggestion. Our study had several limitations, including selection bias of more cases of large defect and intraoperative perforation in P-EPSS group, which were mainly attributable to the single-center retrospective design and should be taken into account when interpreting the findings. We could not eliminate selection bias. We tried to overcome these limitations by including consecutive patients during the study period. Furthermore, all procedures were performed by expert endoscopists at a high-volume center, limiting the generalizability of the findings. Next, we would dedicate to design a new cohort prospective study to compare the criteria of deciding in advance whether to use P-EPSS or C-EPSS before endoscopic manipulations. Despite of these limitations, our study is the largest case series on the topic of EPSS-assisted endoscopic closure and the first report to present a comparison of P-EPSS and C-EPSS. We hope our work can support the development of the technic.

**Responses to the comments of Reviewer #2 (code: 03668600):**

**Specific Comments to Authors:** Important contribution with solid conclusions,

very illustrative video.

**Response:** Thank you very much for your approval of the article. For the language quality you mentioned, this time we have got the manuscript checked by a native speaker and uploaded the editorial certificate. The manuscript was revised extensively in regard to comprehension and readability. We hope those corrections would meet with your approvals.