

Dear Editor:

Thank you for your kind letter of "World Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery Manuscript NO: 68920 – Notification on manuscript revision" on June 30, 2021. We revised the manuscript. in accordance with the reviewer' comments, and carefully proof-read the manuscript. to minimize typographical, grammatical, and bibliographical errors. We would like to thank the reviewers for thoroughly reviewing our manuscript and making thoughtful comment. We were very pleased to see that the reviewer recognized the significance of our work. We attach great importance to these valuable opinions, and have revised the manuscript to address reviewer' comments. Here are our responses:

Reviewer #1:

Comment 1:

"This is a very interesting article about chylous ascites following after right hemicolectomy. The whole manuscript focuses on the impact of right hemicolectomy on the lymphatic system. The purpose of the study is clear, the method is reasonable, and the discussion part is coherent and detailed. It reflects the incidence and possible risk factors of chyloperitoneum caused by surgery, and establishes a prediction model. Although the model only have medium prediction ability, it has certain clinical significance. I would like to focus on whether the 516 patients included in this article refer to all the number of right hemicolectomy cases during the study period? Is it not stated here for all surgical patients? Is there any selective bias?"

Answer:

This article included all patients who met the inclusion criteria during our study. Because we are a single center, 516 patients are already a very large number for our hospital, and they were all the number of right hemicolectomy cases during the study period which met the inclusion criteria. There was no any selective bias. We found that the incidence of chylous ascites after right hemicolectomy was significantly higher than other

operations, so our study was mainly for patients after right hemicolectomy, and may not be suitable for all patients after surgery. But it is worth mentioning that the use of somatostatin can significantly reduce the incidence of chylous ascites, which may be suitable for other operations. This is my answer to your question. Thank you again for your hard work.

Thanks again to the editors and reviewer for your hard work. I know that I still have great defects in writing articles, but I will make persistent efforts to live up to the expectations of editors and reviewers. This was an article written by me with a lot of hard work, hoping to get the recognition of editors and reviewers, and give me such a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to publish a valuable article.

Thank you for your consideration of our manuscript.

Yours sincerely,

Jian-Hua Xu