

Date: 26 February 2023

Re: Manuscript ID: 82773: Carbon Footprints in Minimally Invasive Surgery – Good patient outcomes, but costly for the environment?

Dear Editor-in-Chief and Reviewers,

This is a revised submission of our manuscript titled: “Carbon Footprints in Minimally Invasive Surgery – Good patient outcomes, but costly for the environment?”. We are thankful to you and the reviewers for the insightful critic and comments and the conditional acceptance of our manuscript. The changes are highlighted in red.

Please see below for our point-to-point responses to the reviewers.

Reviewer 1

Thank you for your review and comments for our manuscript. Please see our reply to the queries posed:

Comment 1: All references must correct their wording, also the references: 3, 22, 29, 44, 60, and 65 are missing the PMID and DOI

Reply 1: PMID and DOI are not available for reference 22 as that article is not PubMed indexed. PMID is not available for reference 29, only DOI and PMCID are available. PMID and DOI of other stated references have been included.

Comment 2: The following text must be deleted from reference 2: Research Foundation and the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases outside the submitted work

Reply 2: The texts have been deleted. Thank you for pointing this out.

Comment 3: In conclusion, your review manuscript is of good quality in general terms, with adequate writing, it reviews a fundamental aspect that must be addressed and disrupt the awareness of all surgeons in the world who perform MIS to reduce the deleterious effect of CO₂ on the environment. I invite you to make improvements to the manuscript in order to obtain its publication.

Reply 3: Thank you for your review for this manuscript. We hope that our manuscript will be able to raise the issue of the environmental impacts of minimally invasive surgery.

Reviewer 2

Comment 1: In this narrative review, the authors aimed to summarize the impact of Minimally Invasive Surgery (MIS) on carbon footprints, awareness and attitudes of relevant stakeholders towards environmental sustainability, and challenges in reducing carbon footprint with particular attention to abdominal MIS. I consider this article very timely and really interesting, but I have some remarks:

Reply 1: Thank you for your review. We have made the amendments to the manuscript based on your suggestions:

Comment 2: I suggest to change the title as follows: "Carbon Footprints in Minimally Invasive Abdominal Surgery: good patient outcomes, but costly for the environment - a narrative review"

Reply 2: Thank you for the suggestion. We have added in "a narrative review" behind. However, we have kept the phrase "Minimally invasive surgery" instead of changing it to "minimally invasive abdominal surgery", as there is a paucity of data on minimally invasive abdominal surgery alone, and our manuscript discusses about MIS in general rather than specific to abdominal surgery.

Comment 3: Remove or specify any abbreviations in the abstract

Reply 3: Thank you for this comment. The abstract included "MIS" and "CO₂" as abbreviations. However, these abbreviations are spelled out in full for its first appearance in the abstract. As these abbreviations are used multiple times throughout the abstract, we feel that the abbreviations should be used to improve readability.

Comment 4: If available, please update your reference list. Some of the references are outdated or not correctly cited

Reply 4: Thank you for this comment. We have looked through the reference list. We have amended some references e.g. Ref 9, 10, 55. However, please also let us know if there is/are any reference(s) in particular which you would like us to amend.

Reviewer 3

Comment 1: This review detailed the environment concern of MIS. And this a new topic and useful lesson for surgeon!

Reply 1: Thank you for your review, we similarly hope that this manuscript will be a good summary for surgeons to understand the environmental impact of minimally invasive surgery.

Science Editor

Comment: The manuscript has been peer-reviewed, and it' s ready for the first decision.

Reply: Thank you for the review.

Company Editor-in-Chief

Comment: I have reviewed the Peer-Review Report, full text of the manuscript, and the relevant ethics documents, all of which have met the basic publishing requirements of the World Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery, and the manuscript is conditionally accepted. I have sent the manuscript to the author(s) for its revision according to the Peer-Review Report, Editorial Office's comments and the Criteria for Manuscript Revision by Authors. Please provide the original figure documents. Please prepare and arrange the figures using PowerPoint to ensure that all graphs or arrows or text portions can be reprocessed by the editor. In order to respect and protect the author's intellectual property rights and prevent others from misappropriating figures without the author's authorization or abusing figures without indicating the source, we will indicate the author's copyright for figures originally generated by the author, and if the author has used a figure published elsewhere or that is copyrighted, the author needs to be authorized by the previous publisher or the copyright holder and/or indicate the reference source and copyrights. Please check and confirm whether the figures are

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Reply: Figures have been amended according to the journal requirements. There are no tables in this study.