

June 18, 2023

Andrzej S Tarnawski  
Editor-in-Chief, World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Re: Excision of malignant and pre-malignant rectal lesions by Trans-anal endoscopic microsurgery in patients under 50 years of age**

We are very appreciative of the positive and constructive comments from the reviewers. In the following pages, we address issues raised by the reviewers (quoted in bold), followed by our responses. Each response is followed by a description of the changes made and their section in the manuscript. Finally, changes in the manuscript are tracked.

We hope the revised manuscript will be found suitable for publication. Please contact us if there are additional comments or questions. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Dafna (Shilo) Yaacobi, MD  
Department of plastic surgery & burns  
Rabin Medical Center  
39 Jabutisnki St., Petah Tikva, 4941492, Israel.  
Tel. +972-39376378  
Fax. +972-39219773  
Email: [dafna.yaacobi@icloud.com](mailto:dafna.yaacobi@icloud.com)

## **Response to Reviewers' Comments**

### **Reviewer #1:**

**Dear Authors, Congratulations for coming up with a nice article. It will however need soem amount of language editing before in can be accepted. Please find the suggestion the comment box**

Dear Reviewer,

Thank you for your thorough review. Attached please our revised version with corrections and summary.

### **Reviewer #2:**

**Thanks for invite me to review this manuscript. This study aims to investigate TEM outcomes in patients under 50 years of age. 1. Why is the population under the age of 50 selected as the research sample? Any references? 2. Please revise the format of tables 3. Is there postoperative evaluation of anal function? 4. For T1, what is the criteria of salvage surgery?**

Thank you for your thorough review. 1. We have added an explanation in the end of background paragraph including references. 2. Table 3 revised. 3. We have stopped evaluating anal function following surgery since we have found there is no long term effect on anal incontinence and even if there is its temporary. We have detailed it in the discussion. 4. Criteria for salvage for T1 are known to be sm2, sm3, poorly diff, perineural invasion and vascular invasion.

### **Reviewer #3:**

**Specific Comments to Authors: The manuscript contained novel thought of balance between outcomes and manipulation methods of some certain lesion, which was meaningful and practical. The writing style of the manuscript might be accorded to the journal requirement. For example, some descriptive contents of results and methods might be adjusted. Some contents of limitations descriptions and results contents might be simplified. The authors could check the above suggestions with the editor before the revision actions.**

Thank you for your thorough review. We have definitely made adjustments to our text, we had also a professional language correction and editing.

We thank the reviewers for the thorough and constructive comments, which have helped us to improve the quality of the manuscript.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Dafna Shilo Yaacobi, MD

Department of plastic surgery & burns

Rabin Medical Center

39 Jabutisnki St., Petah Tikva, 4941492, Israel.

Tel. +972-39376378

Fax. +972-39219773

Email: [dafna.yaacobi@icloud.com](mailto:dafna.yaacobi@icloud.com)