

We thank the reviewers for their comments and the editor for giving us the opportunity to submit a revised manuscript. The manuscript has been modified accordingly and our response to the comments is as follows:

Reviewer(s)' Comments to Author:

All corrections in the main text have been highlighted in red color.

**Reviewer: 1**

The author systematically narrates the surgical advancements in rectal and breast cancer. The article presents the following issues:

1. Definition of the article's title: The title suggests a parallel progression or similarity between the surgical histories of rectal and breast cancer. However, the content of the manuscript does not sufficiently demonstrate this parallelism. Therefore, a reassessment of whether the title accurately reflects the content and conclusions of the article is necessary.

Answer : the text has been reassessed by highlighting the main milestones in surgical history of rectal and breast cancer surgery in terms of parallel progressive reduction of radical approaches and the increase of more conservative treatments. In Figure 3 the parallel progression of the surgical histories is clearly shown and depicted.

2. Detailed description of milestone surgical advancements: The manuscript lacks adequate discussion on key advancements in the surgical histories of rectal and breast cancer. It fails to provide an in-depth analysis of the merits and drawbacks of these advancements. It is recommended to include more specific descriptions and analyze both the positive and negative aspects of these milestones.

Answer : the text has been reassessed by highlighting the main milestones in surgical history of rectal and breast cancer surgery and analyzing both the positive and negative aspects.

3. In-depth exploration of the "watch and wait" strategy: A more comprehensive explanation is needed regarding the significance, advantages, disadvantages, and applicability of the "watch and wait" strategy for patients with rectal and breast cancer. This strategy's practical

effectiveness and its suitability for different patient populations require a more thorough explanation.

Answer : thanks for your kind suggestion. We added in the text a more comprehensive explanation of « watch and wait » strategy and the current open questions regarding this approach.

4. Impact of immunotherapy on surgical treatments: The evolution of modern medical technology, particularly immunotherapy, has significantly influenced cancer treatment. Reviewers are interested in understanding the implications of these innovative techniques on surgical treatments for rectal and breast cancer, including their role and position within treatment regimens. These identified issues aim to enhance the quality of the manuscript's content and overall coherence. A more comprehensive and in-depth discussion of the historical developments in rectal and breast cancer surgeries would augment the manuscript's persuasiveness and academic value.

Answer : thanks for your kind suggestion. We added in the text a more comprehensive explanation of immunotherapy and its role within treatment regimens in rectal and breast cancer.