

14<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Fang-Fang Ji  
Science Editor  
Editorial Office  
Baishideng Publishing Group Inc

Dear Dr Ji,

**Re: Peer-Review report for “Percutaneous Transhepatic Cholangioscopy and Lithotripsy in treating difficult biliary ductal stones: Two case reports and literature review”. World Journal of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy. Manuscript NO: 43154**

Thank you for providing the helpful reviewer comments. I have addressed all the suggestions made by the reviewer and outline these below on point-by-point basis:

1 - the authors mention that the enteroscopy assisted scopes have "fewer" working channels, this should probably be "smaller" working channel because both scopes have one channel: **The suggested change has been made**

2 - presenting patients separately is better and easier to read than presenting them concurrently. I suggest to present case 1 completely first including the associated figures, then start case 2 and complete it separately: **The suggested change has been made**

3 – figure 1 looks like an MRI not CT SCAN, please check for that: **Figure is actually CT scan. The windowing has been optimized to make the figure clearer.**

4 - FIGURE 2 IS NOT CLEAR, dark: **The windowing has been optimized to make the figure clearer. With the altered layout as per point 2, the figure is now figure 7**

5 - figure 3: add arrow to point out the stone: **The suggested change has been made. With the altered layout as per point 2, the figure is now figure 2**

6 - figure 4: mentions that the stricture was traversed with a wire, but the wire is not shown. -the text in the treatment section also mentions that the choledochoduodenostomy stricture was traversed but the figures do not show the wire: **Figure 3 now shows the internal-external drain traversing the choledochoduodenostomy in Patient 1, and figure 9**

shows the internal-external drain traversing the hepaticojejunostomy in Patient 2

7 - the sentence cytology excluded malignancy should probably be replaced with "cytology did showed normal cells" or "cytology did not show malignancy". cytology in general does not exclude malignancy due to low sensitivity: The suggested change has been made

8 --"administering prophylactic antibiotics targeting Enterococci and gram-negative bacilli. " please mention the exact antibiotics that were used in each case: The suggested change has been made

Yours sincerely

Edward Alabraba