Reviewer's report

Title: Fully covered self-expandable metal stents (SEMS), partially covered SEMS and self-expandable plastic stents for the treatment of benign esophageal ruptures and anastomotic leaks

Version: 2 Date: 16 November 2011

Reviewer: Manon Spaander

Reviewer's report:

van Boeckel et al review their experience on fully covered self-expandable metal stents (SEMS), partial covered SEMS and plastic stent for the treatment of benign esophageal rupture and anastomotic leakage. The authors evaluated the efficacy of these different stents and found no significant differences between them.

Minor comment:
- Stents were placed for different indications, namely anastomotic leak, iatrogenic rupture, Boerhaave's syndrome and other causes. Were the different stents (equally) divided for the different indications or did the attending physician prefer one of these stents in a specific indication?
- How many days- months after stent removal were patients in follow up. What was the follow-up time?

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests