**Reviewer's report**

**Title:** Macroscopic changes during negative pressure wound therapy of the open abdomen using conventional negative pressure wound therapy and NPWT with a protective disc over the intestines

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 17 February 2011

**Reviewer:** Thomas Wild

**Reviewer's report:**

**Major Compulsory Revisions**

Please explain the reason of petichial bleeding. Is it only the ischemia or may be also the mechanical irritation of the foam based on a irritation of the ingrowth of the material? Please explain the background of your findings.

In the discussion the topic of cardiac side effects doesn't realted to this article. I would recommend to delete this!

Please explain the indications like abdominal compartment syndrom and peritonitis in the introduction.

**Minor Essential Revisions**

Why did you used healthy pigs with out any pathology? You wouldn't use the therapy in healthy human!

**Discretionary Revisions**

In the abstract you have spelling mistake:

....present study...(Background)

you shouldn't use citation with are only submitted (point 11 in literature)

**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' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.