Author's response to reviews

Title: Clamp-Crushing versus Stapler Hepatectomy for Transection of the Parenchyma in Elective Hepatic Resection (CRUNSH) - A Randomized Controlled Trial (NCT01049607)

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Major revisions:

Abstract: the trial registration number must be mentioned in the abstract. The last section of the abstract must be titled Trial Registration, and must list the trial registry and the unique identifying number. Please note that there must be no space between the letters and numbers of the trial registration number (e.g. ISRCTN12345678). Please ensure that you have also updated the abstract in the submission system to ensure it remains identical to the manuscript.

We mentioned the trial registration number in the abstract as requested. The abstract is identical to that in the online submission system.

Structure: this manuscript does not have the correct structure. Please reformat it to use these headings:

Abstract; Background; Methods/Design; Discussion; Abbreviations (if any); Competing interests; Authors' contributions; Authors¿ information (optional); Acknowledgements (optional); References

The revised manuscript matches this structure. However, please note that there is no discussion in this manuscript.

References: please provide a functioning link to website

We provided the functioning link.
Minor revisions (we can make these changes for you, although it will speed up publication of your manuscript if you do them while making the major changes above)

Abstract: Please ensure the subheadings are identical on the online submission system.

The abstract is identical to that in the online submission system.

References: the reference list should contain up to 30 authors’ names for each citation. The term 'et al.' should not be used if there are fewer than 30 authors.

We revised the references as required.

Tables: please remove the visible vertical lines from your tables.

We revised the tables as required.

Tables: please note that we are unable to correctly display merged cells where the merged cell crosses rows: please re-layout your table without these merged elements.

We revised the tables as required.

All changes were highlighted red in the manuscript.