Reviewer’s report

Title: Complications and nutrient deficiencies two years after sleeve gastrectomy

Version: 2 Date: 14 March 2012

Reviewer: Christian Jurowich

Reviewer’s report:

The following issues are major problems:

1. introduction: background data concerning sleeve gastrectomy and the need of better outcome data (especially the lack of long term results) should be presented; additionally data concerning the problem of nutrient deficiencies must be provided
2. as sleeve gastrectomy is a well established surgical technique the part P&M: operation technique should be shortened
3. Patients and methods: DVT-Prophylaxis – as results do not report on DVT this paragraph probably needs to be removed
4. This also applies to paragraph antibiotics and nutrition/ postoperative diet
   a. postop. follow-up: Table must be cited
5. postoperative routine supplementation is not reported/ compliance of patients to supplementation is not reported but mandatory
6. results should be presented clearly arranged and divided into surgical outcome/ complications/ nutrient related results – the way it is described in the manuscript is confusing
7. Results: operation data is partly redundant (e.g. “Out of the 100 patients, 99 were operated laparoscopically, and in 6 cases (6.1 %), a conversion to laparotomy was necessary”).
8. Discussion needs to be clearly arranged – correlated to the presentation of the results
9. Conclusions should be exclusively drawn from the presented results
10. Table 3 and 4 should be presented at once
11. Table 5 and 6 must be simplified
12. simple and clear message concerning nutrient deficiencies is missing
13. if fig. 1 is presented – what is table 5 for? – inscription is also incomplete

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published
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'