Reviewer's report

Title: Increased rate of cholecystectomies performed with doubtful or no indications after laparoscopy introduction: a single center experience.

Version: 2 Date: 15 February 2013

Reviewer: Francesco Saverio Mari

Reviewer's report:

The study proposed in this manuscript is certainly interesting and highlights in an original manner a current problem related to minimally invasive surgery: the treatment of patients with no real indication for surgery only because of reduced invasiveness and morbidity of the surgical technique.

The study is well designed with the methods appropriate and well described. However there are some issues to be addressed:

1. (Minor Essential Revisions) There is no correlation between the data reported in the results for median time, median postoperative stay and median overall hospital stay and the data reported in Table 1. These data are identical to those reported in Table 3 for the 176 patients operated on without indications. Please verify and correct it.

2. (Minor Essential Revisions) Figure 2 and the section of the results are not clear on the classification of surgical indications. As it is stated in the flow-chart and in the text seems that only 607 patients had cholelithiasis and the remaining had not. If this is true, the 84 patients reported with acute cholecystitis should not have cholelithiasis and the number of patients with acalculous cholecystitis should be 1 plus 84. The same should be for the 36 pts with chronic cholecystitis and so on. Please verify and correct.

3. (Discretionary Revisions) The discussion should be shortened possibly eliminating redundant sentences as the repeated comparison with the open technique that wasn't a direct objective of the study.

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