Author's response to reviews

Title: The Belsey Mark IV: An operation with an enduring role in the management of complicated hiatal hernia.

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Author's response to reviews:

Dear Editor,

I would like to thank you for reviewing our manuscript. After reading the comments you made on the original version of our manuscript, we are ready to submit a revision.

In the revised manuscript we have removed the literature review focusing instead on our series of patients. In addition, we have included the required statements regarding ethical review board approval and informed consent.

Statements about safety and efficacy of the Belsey Mark IV operation were also removed as suggested.

The Belsey Mark IV is an operation which has been extensively studied and compared to other techniques in the past. The purpose of this manuscript is, therefore, not to prove the safety or efficacy of the operation, but to suggest that, even though its clinical use has substantially decreased, it may still have a role in selected patients.

Sincerely,

Charalampos Markakis