Author's response to reviews

Title: Early rectal stenosis following stapled rectal mucosectomy for hemorrhoids

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PDF covering letter
Comments on the reviewer’s suggestions

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Dr. Hemingway’s Review

Major Compulsory Revisions

1) The reviewer points out the question, whether the stenosis following stapled mucosectomy can be regarded as a rectal stenosis only. We agree in the reviewers point of view, that the stenosis is more likely a lower rectal stenosis than an anal stenosis. Therefore, the notion “anal stenosis” was removed from the abstract. However, as mentioned by Dr. Hemingway, caused by technical problems the clinical appearance might be similar to an anal stenosis. Thus, from our point of view it is useful to discuss the surgical technique for anal stenosis too. According to Dr. Hemingway’s suggestion the point of technical factors that cause the stenosis was more emphasized in the discussion-section.

2) As recommended by Dr. Hemingway, the question of the significance level of male gender was corrected. The statement, that male gender is in statistical trend was removed from the abstract and the discussion-section.

3) Although there is no claim to show the complete literature on rectal stenosis after mucosectomy we are grateful for the pointer to the additional reference, the publication of Rowsell et al. is now added to the text and Table 3.

Minor Essential Revisions

1) The notion monofilament was added to the text in the methods-section.

Dr. Brisinda’s Review

No further comments.