Author's response to reviews

Title: A Unique Coexistence: Mirizzi Type IV and cholecystocolic fistula in one patient.

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Dear Sirs,

We have revised the manuscript that refers to a case with the unique combination of Mirizzi type IV and cholecystocolic fistula in one patient in Greece. This revision has been worked up, in accordance with the instructions for authors of BMC Surgery journal, and reviewer's comments. In detail according to the instructions for authors we made the following text's structure: 1. Background 2. Case presentation 3. Discussion and Conclusion 4. Competing interest 5. Authors contributions 6. Acknowledgements 7. References 8. Figure legends. The article also have been worked out by two native English colleagues. Additionally because of the remarkable participation and critical intervention for important intellectual content of this revision by the chief of Gastroenterology Department Dr Ioannis Pachiadakis we considered him as an additional author of this manuscript asking for your permission to do it. Regarding the reviewers' instructions we have to mentioned the following:

Referee 1: Dr Attila Csendes.
1. We improved considerably English grammar.
2. Case Presentation: 1. We stated normal values for liver enzymes (Case presentation 1st paragraph).
3. Figure 3 (MRCP) is eliminated.
4. We improved references: a. Parenthesis numbers are eliminated b. We also corrected Reference 2 (After revision is reference No 5). c. November from reference 3 (After revision is 8) is eliminated. References have been changed according BMC Surgery Authors instructions.
5. Abstract: a. We change the whole sentence of the previous word enlarged (Abstract 1st paragraph). b. We corrected the word Hartman's (Abstract 1st paragraph 2nd line) We eliminated the word Mc Sherry from abstract and placed it in the Discussion (2nd paragraph). c. We change the whole profile of the "case presentation" of the abstract, eliminating the phrases "proper surgical therapy" etc that came d. We change the profile of the "conclusion" of the abstract eliminating the word "someone".

Referee 2: Dr Jaques Waisberg
1. General: We changed the profile of the structure and intellectual content in several paragraphs of the text in order to be clearer. We also checked the text for spelling and typos.
Major Compulsory Revisions:
1.a. We changed the title according to reviewer's instructions.
2.b. We began the chapter by characterizing Mirizzi syndrome (Abstract 1st paragraph, Background 1st paragraph, Discussion 1st paragraph).
2.c. We explained the importance of intraoperative recognition of Mirizzi's syndrome and its potential complications (Discussion paragraph 6th). We did the same for bilioenteric fistula (Discussion 10th) paragraph.
2.d. We corrected the presence of the fistula in correlation with Mirizzi's classification (Discussion 1st paragraph).
2.e. We corrected ERCP findings (Discussion, Paragraph 5th after revision, instead of previous 9th).
2. Case presentation:
   a. Appears before the Discussion.
   b. We report the poor colonoscopy results (1st paragraph 7-9 line), with parallel comments in Discussion (8th paragraph, after revision).
   c. We eliminated the term "typical Hartman" and we changed the profile of this paragraph.
3. Discussion:
   a. We separated the Background from the Discussion according to BMC Surgery Instructions for Authors.
   b. We included a lot of comments along the Discussion and especially in first 2, and last 2 paragraphs.
Minor Essential Revisions:
We placed labels on figures and we corrected the terms.
Abstract: We eliminated the references in the abstract and placed the term "Mirizzi syndrome" throughout the text.

Background-Discussion
We replaced "Mirizzi" with "Mirizzi syndrome" throughout the text.
We wrote out all abbreviations in full on first mention in the text (Abstract).
Respective references follow the names of the Authors (Discussion paragraph 2, 3 after revision).

Case Presentation: We replaced "Mirizzi" with "Mirizzi syndrome" throughout the text.

Figures:
   a. Figure 1, 2, 4 we included arrows indicating findings. We cut the figures 3, 6, 7.
   b. We included reference in figure 4 after revision. We couldn't find the spelling mistake.

Referee 3: Dr Rakesh Tandon.
Major compulsory revisions:
We changed the structure of the whole text according to the author's instructions of BMC Surgery journal. So the text includes brief introduction (Background), Case presentation, Discussion and Conclusion.
We mention the underlying local anatomic alterations and Mirizzi's syndrome complications (Discussion paragraph 6th after revision.)

Minor Essential Revisions:
We corrected the syntax errors, the wrong terms, placed labels on figures and made language corrections.

This manuscript has not been published or submitted for publication elsewhere. This manuscript is submitted on behalf of all authors. We strongly believe that this article can help surgeons, radiologists and gastroenterologists to diagnose this unique combination if it happens again, and perform the appropriate surgical treatment.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,

Dr George Chatzoulis and Colleagues