Reviewer’s report

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

Version: 1 Date: 21 January 2007

Reviewer: Jaques Waisberg

Reviewer’s report:

General
The article is of scientific interest as it deals with a particularly rare association of two diseases. However, the text needs to be made clearer with more orderly ideas. It also requires checking for spelling and typos.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

Title
The original title is quite presumptuous as the survey of similar cases was by no means absolute. I suggest amending the title to read: “Mirizzi syndrome type IV associated with cholecystocolic fistula: a very rare condition. Report of a case”

Background
The authors should begin the chapter by characterizing Mirizzi syndrome, explaining the importance of its recognition in surgery of the biliary structures along with its potential complications. Similarly, the same points should be made for the bilioenteric fistula. The presence of the fistula is not essential for Mirrizzi syndrome (Csendes type I) (5th paragraph). The authors mention the presence of cholecystocholedocal fistula instead of cholecystocolic fistula (9th paragraph).

Case presentation
This should appear before the Discussion
Results of the colonoscopy were not expanded on and are important for the cholecystocolic fistula assessment (12th line).
"Typical Hartman”? What does this mean? (18th line).

Discussion
The authors could shorten the Background and include comments in this chapter.

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

Abstract
Do not include references in the abstract. Replace “Mirizzi” with “Mirizzi syndrome” throughout the text.

Background
Replace “Mirizzi” with “Mirizzi syndrome” throughout the text. All abbreviations must be written out in full on first mention in the text. When authors are cited, respective references must follow the names (6th paragraph).

Case presentation
Replace “Mirizzi” with “Mirizzi syndrome” throughout the text.

Figures
Figure 1. Include arrows indicating findings.

Figure 2. Include arrows indicating findings.
Figure 3. Could be cut.

Figure 4. Include arrows indicating findings.

Figure 5. Include reference in the figure legend. Correct spelling mistake.

Figure 6. Could be cut.

Figure 7. Could be cut (both).

All figures of the operation could be cut.

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

**What next?:** Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**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.