Reviewer’s report

Title: Experiences with a Simple Laparoscopic Gastric Tube Construction

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Reviewer: yu-chung wu

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This is a confirmatory article aims to provide more clinical experience from the authors by using the method that they have previously reported in European Journal of Cardiothoracic Surgery in 2011. A series of 26 patients were retrospectively collected and summarized to prove the feasibility and safety of this procedure. There was no mortality in this series, but there was nevertheless a high rate of post operative complications.

Basically, it is a well written article and easy to read. The authors describe an interesting and unique approach in their minimal invasive esophagectomy. The approach probably does facilitate a safe transfer of the gastric conduit into the neck and will be attractive and beneficial to the readers in this specific field.

However, it seems to be unnecessary to correlate pathologic data and related outcome with a simple technical maneuver without any oncologic consequence. I suggest the authors may consider deleting the table 4.

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

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.