Author's response to reviews

Title: Trans-visceral migration of retained surgical gauze as cause of intestinal obstruction: a case report.

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I would like to resubmit the revised version of the article “Trans-visceral migration of retained surgical gauze as cause of intestinal obstruction: a case report”

As suggested by the reviewer, we have added the following points to the conclusions:

1. No evidence of abscesses or fistulas was found; this fact has been added to the description of the clinical case.
2. It is difficult to understand why the patient remained asymptomatic for so long. In fact, in the discussion, we mention that the time interval between the operation and the appearance of symptoms due to the retained gauze may range inexplicably from a few days to several years.
3. The reference regarding the author Kaiser has now been corrected.
4. A brief comment on lack of quality has now been included in the discussion.
5. As requested by Dr. Heijden, we have condensed the concepts regarding the incidence of the phenomenon, the risk of surgical mortality and the medico-forensic data.
6. We have also shortened the text by eliminating those sections which did not strictly concern the clinical case under discussion.

The changes made have been written in red.
The text has been checked by a native British English speaker.

I hope that with the above modifications this Case Report will now be considered suitable for publication. Please let me know if any further explanations or changes are necessary.

With very best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Calogero Cipolla MD