Author's response to reviews

Title: Ileo-sigmoid fistula and delayed ileal obstruction secondary to blunt abdominal trauma: a case report.

Authors:

Konstantinos Bouliaris (kwstisbook@yahoo.com)
Dimos Karangelis (dimoskaragel@yahoo.gr)
Konstantinos Spanos (kostasspanos@meduth.gr)
Stylianos Germanos (sgermn@meduth.gr)
Evangelos Alexiou (ealexiou@meduth.gr)
Anargyros Giaglaras (giagh@yahoo.gr)

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Author's response to reviews:

Dear editors,

Thank you very much once again for the opportunity you are giving us to revise our present manuscript. Indeed the requested changes have improved the paper linguistically and we feel now it has met the criteria for publication by your esteemed journal.

We have performed the requested changes as seen below:

1. We have reworded the sentences in the case presentation section of the abstract and in the conclusion section of the abstract as per reviewer request.

2. In the introduction the sentence "Abdomen is the third most commonly injured part of the body after a trauma" is now corrected.

3. In the introduction section, we have changed the sentence "Solid organ such as the liver and spleen are the most frequently injured while injuries to the bowel or mesentery are rare." as the editor instructed.

4. We have used periods instead of commas for the percentages as well as defined the common abbreviations (Computerized tomography- CT).

5. We have changed the word "man" to "gentleman in the case presentation section for the sentence "A 38-year-old Caucasian Greek man presented...".

6. The sentence "He had a history of previous admission in another surgical department, 4 months earlier, for blunt abdominal trauma after a road traffic accident." is now revised.

7. We altered the sentence "He underwent an abdominal ultrasound showing no intraperitoneal fluid or solid organ injury. At that time, the patient was admitted for
observation." as the editor instructed.

10. We added the hyphen in the sentence "enhanced-abdominal CT".

11 and 12. The two sentences "Having in mind the episodes of diarrhea, as well as the loss of weight we included Chrohn's disease in differential diagnosis." and "The abnormal ileal loop was mobilized from the bladder and the sigmoid and resected with restoration of intestinal continuity by primary side-to-side ileo-ileal anastomosis." are now corrected.

13 and 14. The two following sentences "The interval between trauma and the onset of symptoms range from 13 days to 18 years, although the majority of patients experienced symptoms within four to eight weeks of the initial trauma [9]" and "As far as the role of CT is concerned, it is to a certain point unclear whether it can provide a solid and conclusive answer to the dilemma; operation or close monitoring and observation" are revised, and the hyphen is now used in the term "contrast-enhanced".

16. We filled in the missing word fluid after the intraabdominal.

17. We have rephrased the following sentences "We suggest close monitoring of these patients, continuing physical examination, further tests if there is a doubt and we consider surgical intervention as the last resource in our medical quiver, only in a deteriorating patient. Many other authors conclude to the fact that traces of free fluid in patients, with no other signs of injury are not associated with significant intra-abdominal injury and can be safely managed non operatively [18,19]."

18. We have also rephrased the last sentence in the conclusion "The main differential diagnosis should be made from Crohn's disease [9,10,11,20]".

19. The last sentence in the conclusion is now corrected.

20. In the author's contribution section the following sentence "Dr. BK made a literature research, and was the chief author in terms of building the paper." is now changed.

21. We deleted the term "Dr." in front of the initials of the authors in the author's contribution section as instructed by the editor.

22. The caption for figure 2 is corrected.

All changes are now marked in red.