Author's response to reviews

Title: Early experience with Single-Incision Laparoscopic Surgery (SILS) for the placement of a gastrostomy in a 10-year-old girl: a case report

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Author's response to reviews: see over
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Dear Editor–in–Chief,

Enclosed you will find a revised manuscript by Kim Vanderlinden¹, M.D., Nele Van De Winkel², M.D., Antoine De Backer³, M.D., Ph.D., Georges Delvaux⁴, M.D., Ph.D, Kristel De Vogelaere⁵, M.D. entitled: "Early experience with Single–Incision Laparoscopic Surgery (SILS) for the placement of a gastrostomy in a 10–year–old girl: a case report." which we like to submit to Journal of Medical Case Reports.

The changes in this revision are marked in green.

Our case report is not the first report of this kind in the literature, however it is an original case report of significant interest to the pediatric surgery. With this case we propose that SILS has different possibilities in surgery not only for adults but also for children. This can extend the indications for SILS.

The difference with the procedures described by Georgeson and Ponsky, is the SILS–port®, that brought us the possibility to use an extra instrument (thus two instruments) which was necessary to grasp the somewhat ‘hidden’ stomach at the right place for the placement of the gastrostomy, because of the hepatomegaly of our patient. Cosmetic result seems the same as in the technique of Georgeson and Ponsky, because of the unique incision in the umbilicus. Because of the costs it is not a technique to use in all pediatric patients who need a gastrostomy. It is not a standard technique for the placement of a gastrostomy. Although it is a good technique for specific cases in which it can be difficult to grasp the stomach with only one instrument, for example because of hepatomegaly.

The present manuscript has not been reported elsewhere. Submission for publication is fully approved by all authors.
Hoping you will take this manuscript into consideration for publication we remain,

Yours sincerely,

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