Reviewer’s report

Title: Choledochoduodenal fistula and pneumobilia secondary to gallbladder cancer

Version: 3 Date: 5 October 2011

Reviewer: pavlos lampropoulos

Which of the following best describes what type of case report this is?: Unexpected or unusual presentations of a disease

Has the case been reported coherently?: Yes

Is the case report authentic?: Yes

Is the case report ethical?: Yes

Is there any missing information that you think must be added before publication?: Yes

Is this case worth reporting?: Yes

Is the case report persuasive?: Yes

Does the case report have explanatory value?: Yes

Does the case report have diagnostic value?: Yes

Will the case report make a difference to clinical practice?: Yes

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?: Yes

Comments to authors:

This is a well written paper of a patient with gallbladder cancer complicated with a choledochoduodenal fistula. Gallbladder cancer has a dismal prognosis and 85% of patients are dead within a year after diagnosis. A common complication of gallbladder cancer is obstruction of the common bile duct which may produce multiple intrahepatic abscesses in or near the tumor-laden gallbladder. Fistula formation may further complicate the clinical picture.

However, there is no discussion regarding the role of ERCP on fistulae. The authors could cite a recently published article “Mirizzi syndrome type Va: A rare coexistence of double cholecysto-biliary and cholecysto-enteric fistulae” World J Radiol. 2010 Oct 28;2(10):410-3 as follows: “Recently, an indirect sign suggesting fistula was described during ERCP, where biliary tree dilatation
subsides when the patient is placed in anti-Trendelenburg position.” in the Introduction Section after the first sentence of the second paragraph. The authors need to run a spelling check on the paper for instance (Figure legend 1 -change abcess to abscess). In addition change SI units: iu/l and IU/l to IU/L and Meq/l to mEq/L.

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Declaration of competing interests:**

'I declare that I have no competing interests'