Author’s response to reviews

Title: Prediction of perioperative outcome after hepatic resection for pediatric patients

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Author’s response to reviews:

BMGE-D-19-00751
Prediction of perioperative outcome after hepatic resection for pediatric patients
Alessandro Vitale
BMC Gastroenterology

E-mail: em@editorialmanager.com

RE: Manuscript No. BMGE-D-19-00751 revision

Dear Dr. Alessandro Vitale,

Thank you for handling our Manuscript No. BMGE-D-19-00751 by Chunbao et al. entitled ‘Prediction of perioperative outcome after hepatic resection for pediatric patients’. Now, we have completed revision of our manuscript.

We feel that in our revised manuscript we have clarified all the issues raised by the reviewers. With this revision, we think that our study is more solid and complete and hope that it is now suitable for publication in BMC Gastroenterology. Each author certifies that he/she has made a direct and substantial contribution to the work reported in the manuscript and approved the final version of the manuscript.
Along with this letter, we included our responses to reviewer’s issues point-by-point. We would like to resubmit the rearranged manuscript for further evaluation and hope that it is suitable for publication in your journal.

Thank you again for handling our manuscript and we look forward to your final decision with respect to this revision.

Sincerely,

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Reply to referees’ comments
Editor Comments

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Reply: that is great.

Reviewer reports
Rizwan Ahamed, MdD,DM (Reviewer 1) I have read with interest this article on results of hepatic resection in pediatric patients. It provides significant new information in the management of this subset of pediatric patients. However there are a few issues that I would like to raise.

Reply: We are pleased with the complimentary comment of the reviewer "I have read with interest this article on results of hepatic resection in pediatric patients. It provides significant new information in the management of this subset of pediatric patients".

1. You have mentioned that fresh frozen plasma transfusions were provided according to coagulation parameters. Was Thromboelastography done routinely intra or perioperatively for these patients

Reply: This is a great point, we are glad that the reviewer pointing this out.

In 2006, to aid the goal-directed treatment algorithms, the viscoelastic assays was performed using rotational thrombelastometry in our operating room. Thromboelastography done routinely intra or perioperatively for these patients accoring to the clinical performance of the patients. Indeed, prothrombin complex concentrate (PCC) or fibrinogen concentrate are used first for immediate treatment until fresh frozen plasma was available according to deficiency detected with viscoelastic testing.

We acknowledged that although the practice of transfusion within this hospital may have changed substantially, there is no executable guideline for transfusion therapy in the current pediatric patients.

2. Regarding intravenous albumin infusion, it was mentioned that infusions were given for patients
with low albumin. Was there any specific cut off value decided for these patients, or was it only given for cirrhotic patients?

Reply: We thank the reviewer for your careful review and pointing this out. In general, the albumin infusion was determined according to the cut off for albumin concentration (25 g/l). Importantly, the decision should be determined according to the condition of operation and the severity of illness. For cirrhotic patients, the albumin infusion should be administered in advance.

3. The manuscript needs much improvement in the use of English language. There are many typos and grammatical errors which need to be corrected.

Reply: We have employed a native English editor fluent in biomedical English to revise the main text more logically to follow. The whole article has been checked carefully, and minor recommendations about erroneously cited references, grammatical errors, spelling and phraseology have been corrected within our manuscript to make them easier to understand. We hope this manuscript would be suitable for publication in your journal.

Alessandro Vitale (Reviewer 2) This is an interesting retrospective study exploring the outcome of hepatic resection in pediatric patients.

The sample size seems adequate and the study design also.

We are appreciated and encouraged with the complimentary comment of the reviewer “This is an interesting retrospective study exploring the outcome of hepatic resection in pediatric patients. The sample size seems adequate and the study design also”.

I suggest only a revision of the English language used.

Reply: We have employed a native English editor fluent in biomedical English to revise the main text more logically to follow. The whole article has been checked carefully, and minor recommendations about erroneously cited references, grammatical errors, spelling and phraseology have been corrected within our manuscript to make them easier to understand. We hope this manuscript would be suitable for publication in your journal.