Reviewer's report

Title: Transabdominal laparoscopic retroperitoneal neurectomy for chronic pain after inguinal hernia repair and appendicectomy - a matched-pair study.

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Reviewer: Yih-Huei Uen

Reviewer's report:
As the conclusion of present manuscript, transabdominal laparoscopic retroperitoneal neurectomy has been considered as an effective alternative for selected refractory cases of chronic postherniorrhaphy inguinal pain. There are two issues need to be delineated. The first, other than clinical data and quality of life studied in present report, is there any other quantitative data available to assess intra- or inter-group difference in surgical outcomes? Such as quantitative sensory testing (QST) has been used in recent reports in attempt (but still not proved) to objectively support the usefulness of this technique and guide patient selection. The second issue: is there any difference between the patients with or without clinical improvement after transabdominal laparoscopic retroperitoneal neurectomy? Please describe it in references with other's reports.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.
Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.
Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.
Yes
Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?

If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English

Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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