Reviewer’s report

Title: Laparoscopic vs open colorectal cancer surgery in elderly patients: short- and long-term outcomes and predictors for overall and disease-free survival

Version: 2 Date: 10 Jul 2019

Reviewer: Guglielmo Gozzi

Reviewer's report:

It is certainly an interesting article and the study looks well performed. It successfully compares survival outcomes for laparoscopic vs open surgery in elderly patients.

English is overall correct and just very few sentences throughout the manuscript need to be rephrased and rewritten because, to me, some concepts are difficult to understand (also the title could be rewritten better).

In my opinion, there is only a minor issue: in the "discussion" it is both stated that laparoscopic approach "can significantly increase the number of lymph nodes taken" and also that "could significantly decrease the number of retrieved lymph nodes". This part is not clear and need to be reviewed.

Overall, the article is well written.

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:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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