Reviewer’s report

Title: Indocyanine green fluorescence imaging to assess bowel perfusion during totally laparoscopic surgery for colon cancer

Version: 2 Date: 26 Mar 2020

Reviewer: Elisa Cassinotti

Reviewer's report:

Dear Authors,

The topic is interesting and certainly the use of ICG fluorescence to evaluate colonic perfusion is a "hot" topic nowadays.

The paper is well written and detailed, nevertheless I do have few questions and comments:

- why rectal and low sigmoid resection where not included in the study? it is widely reported that anastomotic leakage has higher rates in rectal resection, so it would have been interesting to enroll such cases; however if they had been excluded because you considered only totally intracorporeal anastomosis technique, it should be specified.

- In the discussion (line 225-228) it is reported: "The changing rate in the transection point using IGFI was a little higher than when using visible or white light during a totally laparoscopic surgery" but there is no data/percentage of the change of strategy in the WLI group; since this is a retrospective study where the IGFI group is compared to a past control series, it is likely that in the white light patients this data has not been collected, so the previous sentence must be modified.

- In the discussion reference and comparison with previous studies are too "poor". There are metanalysis, big multicentric and randomized studies that could have been mentioned and used for discussing results addressing more robust evidences (only as an examples see following articles PMID 30192332, 29230591, 29663330, 30903276).

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

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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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