Author’s response to reviews

Title: Long-Term Outcomes of Two Types of Metal Stent for Chronic Benign Ureteral Strictures

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Version: 1 Date: 07 Mar 2019

Author’s response to reviews:

To Reviewer 1>
- Thank you for comments about important issue.
- In Korea, Uventa stent is approved just for ‘ureteral strictures’. Benign ureteral stricture is not excluded from the indication.

All patients included in this study was provided other treatment options including reconstructive surgery sufficiently. The metal stent placement was performed on patients who did not want to undergo reconstructive surgery or who could not apply reconstructive surgery for medical condition.

Two UPJ stricture included in this study were recurred cases after pyeloplasty. One case was recurred even after an additional endoureterotomy, and the other was intractable after multiple balloon dilatations. The treatment policy was determined after sufficient consultation with patients.

(Discussion section, line 16-38, page 10)

To Reviewer 2>
- Thank you for kind advice. We removed the paragraph regarding Clavien 2.
- The text has been added that metal stents are contraindicated in renal stone formers.
To Reviewer 3>

- Thank you for the valuable comments. We admit that baseline characteristics were different in two groups. However, the factors influencing success rate were analyzed by multivariate analysis to offset that limitations. Multivariate analysis provides comprehensive information between the two groups. Additional description was added in our limitation section.

(Discussion section, line 11-21, page 13)

- We have added risk factor analysis for each stent type according to your valuable recommendations and have described the details in results and discussions.

(Result section, line 30-43, page 9 & Discussion section, line 1-14, page 12)