

Answering Reviewers

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 53671

Title: The cost of postoperative complications. How to avoid calculation errors.

Column: Opinion Review

We thank the reviewers for their very thorough evaluation of our study and for their comments which have helped us to introduce important improvements in the new version.

In the following, we provide point-to-point answers to the reviewers' comments. The changes made in response to the recommendations of the Science Editor and the reviewers are marked in red in the new version of the manuscript.

1. We have added a new point to the indirect costs of table 1:
 - *“Associated with the legal issues that may occur”.*
2. The double "here" typing Error at the end of the second paragraph on page 6 has been removed.

Reviewer #1: Comments for ESPS Manuscript NO 53671 The manuscript is a well written one. I have no specific comments.

Thank you for your positive assessment.

Reviewer #2: A comprehensive assessment of postoperative complications and their costs will allow the readers to determine which areas need investment to lower the incidence of postoperative, improve surgical results, and reduce economic costs. This is an attempt to avoid human surgical errors, if not, a larger additional cost associated with the legal issues that occur. An indirect cost in additional legal problem should be add in the table 2. Double "here" typing Error at the end of the second paragraph on page 6.

Thank you for your positive comments.

1. We have added a new point to the indirect costs of table 1 (we believe that the reviewer mentions table 2 by mistake):
 - *"Associated with the legal issues that may occur"*.
2. The double "here" typing Error at the end of the second paragraph on page 6 has been removed.

Reviewer #3: This manuscript provides the timely review and the guidelines as to the ways how to reduce the incidence and cost of postoperative complications (PC). The article describes ways of quantifying and classifying PC, and discusses the factors which may allow to more accurate assess the PC costs and to improve the surgical results. The overall conclusion is that careful recording and auditing of PC should lead to health care transparency, quality, and reduction of economic costs. The manuscript is well written and amply supported by the tabulated data.

Thank you for your kind comments.

Reviewer #4: This is great new idea in the surgical field. The EC of health and particularly surgery is growing. Increasing population, growing surgical procedures, emerging surgical techniques, complex procedures, experience of surgical teams and quality of hospitals are all the determinants of the EC of surgery. An alphabet for the EC of PC is mandatory. So, the manuscript is valuable for publishing.

[Thank you for your comment](#)