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June 19, 2016

Clara Balsano PhD

Wan-Long Chuang MD, PhD

Editors, World Journal of Hepatology

Dear Drs Balsano and Chuang:

We are respectfully submitting our manuscript entitled: **Liver resection for early hepatocellular cancer: comparison of 3 centers in different countries**

This study was a retrospective study on patients who had liver resections in 3 countries. This study did not involve any experimental treatments or therapies. Informed consent was not needed as all data that was used was de-identified, i.e. there were no identifiable data (no names, birthdates, addresses or medical record numbers) in any of the databases when it was combined to a single database that was analyzed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Linda L. Wong'.

Linda L. Wong MD