

Author's Reply

Reply to the letter: HIPEC and the necessary hyperthermia: do we still need the open abdomen?

Dear Editor,

I have read with great interest Dr. Lotti's letter. It is a great job that we really appreciate on the important issue of drug distribution and heat within the abdominal cavity. I thank Dr. Lotti because it allows us to underline a few points in our past work. We believe that both the open technique and the closed technique can have the risk of intestinal perforation. This perforation can be caused even by hyperthermia. No work in literature shows in a statistically significant way that a technique is better than the other. Our work does not want to prove that a technique is better than another. We know that hyperthermia increases the absorption of the drug and it is itself cytotoxic. We also know that these two characteristics do not increase as the temperature rises above 43°C. We, therefore, reckon it is not useful to overcome this temperature both in open and closed technology during HIPEC technique.

Conflict of interest

The authors declare no conflicts of interest.

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