

Comment to “Win not by numbers, but by skill”

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Dear Editor-in-chief,

First we would like to thank Ospan Mynbaev and his co-authors for their “Letter to the Editor” [1]. Discussion between adhesion researchers is one of the key points for improvement in this scientific field and in evaluation of adhesion prophylactic agents and techniques.

The combined surgical procedures were not extra listed as they showed to have no influence on the final adhesion formation. They can be indirectly read out of the text although looking at the description of the sites where the adhesion barrier was applied. The adhesion barrier could have been applied to the 24 documented sites but was in fact only put on to the described anatomical places in case of adhesions there at first-look laparoscopy.

We lost two patients to follow up because of “drop out”, refusing second-look laparoscopy and thereby revoking their informed consent given before first-look laparoscopy.

The sponsoring industrial company wanted to perform a pilot study before entering a major prospective randomized study on efficacy. The ethical committee in Germany only allowed a small number of patients due to the planned second-look laparoscopy. After finishing this now-published pilot study, the company decided not to go on with the eventually planned investigation that would have had a high number of patients. As there are only few randomized control studies with consequently performed second-look laparoscopy in clinical adhesion research, we carefully evaluated the complete situation and decided to publish these data nevertheless.

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Conflict of interest None.

Reference

1. Ospan A Mynbaev, Marina Yu Eliseeva, Madina IMazitova, Antonio Malvasi, Andrea Tinelli (2014) “Win not by numbers, but

by skill”: Tchartchian G, Hackethal A, Herrmann A, Bojahr B, Wallwiener C, Ohlinger R, Ebert AD, De Wilde RL. Evaluation of SprayShield™ Adhesion Barrier in a single center: randomized controlled study in 15 women undergoing reconstructive surgery after laparoscopic myomectomy. Arch Gynecol Obstet doi:[10.1007/s00404-014-3335-0](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00404-014-3335-0)