

Author's Reply

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Dear Editor,

We would like to thank the authors for their interest in our article entitled "Immediate Video-Assisted Thoracoscopic Surgery Versus Chest Tube Drainage in the First Episode of Primary Spontaneous Pneumothorax: A Comparative Study."^[1]

We understand the authors' concerns regarding surgical intervention in patients experiencing the first attack of primary spontaneous pneumothorax (PSP). As stated in the literature, conservative treatment is the first-line approach in guidelines for the first attack of PSP.^[2] As stated in the conclusion of our article, we do not recommend abandoning traditional conservative treatment and applying VATS in the first episode of PSP. However, when read carefully, it can be clearly understood that our study was not the first to deliver this take-home message. Systematic reviews have already indicated the role of VATS in the first attack of PSP.^[3,4] We do not recommend using the VATS approach instead of traditional conservative treatment but only suggest it as an alternative treatment approach, as stated in other systematic reviews.

It has been reported that performing immediate VATS during the first episode of PSP reduces the rate of recurrence.^[5] In addition, VATS has been demonstrated to have lower complication rates and shorter durations of chest tube placement and hospital stay.^[6] These aforementioned results are consistent with our findings.

In summary, our results once again demonstrate the effectiveness and safety of immediate VATS in the treatment

of the first episode of PSP. However, in conclusion, we emphasize the need for more well-designed randomized controlled trials to strengthen the current evidence.

References

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