

On behalf of all co-authors, I would like to thank the reviewer for the comments.

4th Reviewer

The figure legends require significant elaboration.

Answer: We do agree with the reviewer. Thus, all figure legends have been rephrased to Figure 2. Boxplot graph that shows the median percentage along with 25th, 75th percentiles, of irradiated volume between rectum, rectal wall and its subsegments for the specific dose endpoint of V52.17Gy. The dots represent the outliers. Lines 329-331.

Figure 3. Boxplot graph that shows the median percentage along with 25th, 75th percentiles, of irradiated volume between rectum, rectal wall and its subsegments for the specific dose endpoint of V56.52Gy. The dots represent the outliers. Lines 333-335.

Please include future directions in the conclusion section.

Answer: we have updated the conclusion section to include the following

“Similar works in the future could lead towards establishing a correlation between dose endpoints and the absence of late GI adverse events, especially in the IMRT and VMAT era where doses to the normal tissues have been reduced but not eliminated.” In the Conclusion section, lines 575-578.