

October 05, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 12553-Edited.doc).

Title: Alcohol consumption and the risk of Barrett's esophagus: a meta-analysis

Author: Cong Dai , Wei-Xin Liu, Ke Wang, Hong-Kun Jiang, Min Jiang, Ming-Jun Sun

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Meta-Analysis*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 12553

Thank you for your letter and for the reviewers' comments concerning our manuscript. Those comments are all valuable and very helpful for revising and improving our paper, as well as the important guiding significance to our researches. We have studied comments carefully and have made correction which we hope meet with approval. Revised portion are marked in red in the paper. The main corrections in the paper and the responds to the reviewer's comments are as following:

Replies to Reviewer Questions:

1 This intersting manuscript about alcohol consumption and BE is intersting for the readership and should be published. However, the conclusion stating that alcohol consumption increases the incidence of BE can not be made. The discussion nicely highlights the problems with a wide variation on confounding factors. The heterogeneity of the different studies is too big in order to compare and draw conclusions.

Answer: Thank you very much for the suggestion. Actually, our results have demonstrated that there was statistically significant heterogeneity among these studies ($P=0.017$). In order to eliminate the heterogeneity of these studies, we have conducted the subgroup analysis in different study type, country, source and alcohol type.

2 Figure 1 does not contribute to the results and should be omitted.

Answer: Thank you very much for the suggestion. We have deleted the Figure 1. Corrections have been made in the revised version.

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Meta-Analysis*.

Sincerely yours,

Min Jiang, MD, PhD
First Affiliated Hospital
China Medical University
Shenyang city, Liaoning Province
Fax: +86-024-23414369
E-mail: cong dai2006@126.com