

ANSWERING REVIEWERS



Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in word format (file name: 21476-Review.doc).

Title: Quinolone-based first, second and third-line therapies for *Helicobacter pylori*

Author: Enzo Ierardi, Giuseppe Losurdo, Floriana Giorgio, Andrea Iannone, Mariabeatrice Principi, Alfredo Di Leo

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Pharmacology*

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The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

Reviewer 1

1. Dear authors: I reviewed, with great interest, your manuscript entitled "Quinolone based first, second and third line therapies for *Helicobacter pylori*". It is an interesting work but, in my opinion, it has some flaws:

I understand why you placed second line treatments in first place but would prefer a manuscript with the following order: First line, second line, rescue regimens.

A: Sir, we put the paragraph of second line treatment in first position in order to emphasize that fluoroquinolones are mainly indicated in this setting. Their application in first and third line does not encounter a full agreement, therefore we believe that, in the current "state of art", first and rescue regimens with fluoroquinolones find a more appropriate location when less emphasized than second one.

2. This is a mini-review but you emphasize a study with lactoferrin (totally unnecessary in this manuscript) and have not a single word about the type of PPI. I would also explore the possibility of a 14-day regimen.

A: We deleted the study in object (lactoferrin) and, further, we added a small paragraph discussing the effect of treatment prolongation to 14 days. Moreover, in the table 1, we added a column reporting the PPI used in cited references.

3. The English language/grammar must be thoroughly reviewed. Some examples: "Author contribution" - correct please. "However, fluoroquinolones are showing an increasing resistance rates, which could affect their effectiveness in the next future". I think this phrase is not correct. Probably you wanted to say: "However, *H. pylori* is showing an increasing resistance rate to fluoroquinolones, which could affect the effectiveness of such antibiotics in the near future." "excessive number" - correct please.

A: The corrections suggested by the reviewer have been performed. Moreover, a linguistic revision by a native English speaker has been performed.

Once more, congratulations for your work. I hope my suggestions can be useful for you. With kind regards.

A: We thank the reviewer for this appreciation.

Reviewer 2

The manuscript entitled "Quinolone based first, second and third line therapies for helicobacter pylori" summarizes the use of quinolones in eradication regimens for H. pylori infection. The authors present the use of levofloxacin in first, second and third-line treatment of H. pylori. The authors also describe the use of newer quinolones, such as moxifloxacin, sitafloxacin, gatifloxacin and gemifloxacin as new potential molecules that could be useful in therapy. The work represents review papers. Title and abstract well present the aims and design of the study. The work is properly constructed. Some comments to the Authors:

1. In the section: The use of levofloxacin in H. pylori eradication regimens, first line treatments and also in Table 1., the authors sometimes use the shortcut LTT and elsewhere ITT. Please clarify. It would be good also to put description of the shortcut under the table.

A: We clarified the meaning of the shortcuts along all the manuscript.

2. In my opinion there are too many references in the manuscript, however they are well selected.

A: In accordance to the opinion of reviewer 1, we deleted a reference which was not strictly necessary.

3. A mistyping is noticed in the section: The use of levofloxacin in H. pylori eradication regimens, second line treatments: "lattoferrin" should read "lactoferrin".

A: A linguistic revision by a native English speaker has been performed.

Overall, the study presents current knowledge about use of quinolones for H. pylori infection, it very useful and important from clinical point of view.

A: We thank the reviewer for the useful comments and for his kind appreciation.