

August 3, 2015

Damian Garcia-Olmo, MD, PhD
Saleh A Naser, PhD
Stephen C. Strom, PhD
Andrzej S. Tarnawski, DSc, MD, PhD
Editors-in-Chiefs
World Journal of Gastroenterology

Dear Editors-in-Chiefs:

My co-authors and I are submitting a retrospective study article for publication in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*, titled "The Healthcare and Economic Impact of Diarrhea Among Patients with Carcinoid Syndrome" (word count: 2,953).

We conducted a cross-sectional, retrospective cohort study using the Truven Health Analytics MarketScan® Database, a commercial health insurance claims database for employer-insured beneficiaries in the US.

The database is fully compliant with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and meets the criteria for a limited-use dataset. Since the patient and provider data included in this analysis were fully de-identified, this study was exempt from the Institutional Review Board review and/or approval and no informed consent was necessary.

Sincerely,

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