

February 26, 2016

Yuan Qi

Editor

World Journal of Gastrointestinal Pharmacology and Therapeutics

Please find enclosed our revised manuscript " Widespread Use of Gastric Acid Inhibitors in Infants: Are They Needed? Are They Safe? ".

We thank you for your letter with the reviewers' comments and suggestions regarding the manuscript. Please find a point-by-point response format to all comments. We have also made additional revisions to the manuscript to accommodate the revisions suggested by the reviewers without exceeding the journal's requested word count limit.

Major points

1. Recently, the usefulness of vonoprazan, which has stronger acid inhibitory effect, has been reported in adults. Although this drug is not introduced for infants now, please mention this drug.

In adults, there have been moves to even more potent acid suppression with the novel potassium competitive acid blockers such as vonoprazan. There is no safety data in children for this therapy, and considering that acid suppression has not been shown to affect symptoms in the majority of cases, there is likely to be very limited role for this drug in children.

2. I want to know the frequency of H2RA/PPI utilization and ratio of H2RA to PPI use in infants.

Whilst there is no contemporary data outlining the relative frequency of H2RA and PPI use, the authors have observed a definite trend towards PPI as the predominant medication prescribed for acid suppression.

3. Which of H2RA or PPI are more associated with adverse events? Also, which of them do you recommend when needing acid suppressive therapy in infants?

There is no direct evidence to suggest increased safety of H2RA medication compared with PPI and in situations where acid suppression is indicated (e.g. esophagitis) they have decreased potency.

We thank you and the reviewers for the helpful comments which have enhanced the quality of the revised manuscript. We trust this work is now acceptable for publication in *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Pharmacology and Therapeutics*

Yours Sincerely,

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1787