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Title: TACTICS OF *HELICOBACTER PYLORI* TO ESTABLISH PERSISTENT INFECTION

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Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

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To editor:

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers: changes to the text are marked in yellow. New text about 1- core tip, title, running title, new formatting in reference style (DOI. etc), author contributions were all inserted in new version of the manuscript #wjg-31756. The main concern arise in revision was designing the new table and figures. I decided to design 5 figures and 1 table illustrating the main biologic concepts presented in this paper. it sounds that the paper is more informative now and it can reach the messages easier. Noted, many changes had been done due to the reviewers request and it shaped the manuscript very well. Sorry for my delay but it was only for various tasks I need to make before sending the revision to WJG. In below, I responded point by point the comments by the reviewers.

Reviewer 00043980: Due to English expression and grammar difficulties, it is difficult to follow the authors' logic as they develop this important topic.

Response: Indeed, in agreement with reviewer s comment, I asked a native English expert to re-read and re-write the paper again following the revision and before re-submitting to WJG. Because of the reviewer's request we have re-written more than 50% of whole manuscript which result in professional expression of our main goal in persistent infection by H. pylori. Finally, I should have thank constructive comments by reviewer.

Reviewer 03002860:

The review is very interesting. Addresses an issue of vital importance in the study of *Helicobacter pylori*. The review is extensive and include several points of view for to understand the persistence of the bacteria in the gastric lumen. Nevertheless, there are observe some weaknesses respect to molecular aspect that are not considered in the review. Many paragraphs describes colloquial aspects of the mechanism of persistence of *H. pylori*, without a molecular base in which it can hold. I missed more biochemical details. I suggest to complement with tables and/or a figure, moreover of to edit the English. For other hand the references are very old, I suggest updating it. Specific comments are in the review.

Response: I agree with the reviewer's concerns, so new texts to meet the requirements are inserted in revised version. Please find in below my direct response to the reviewer s kind queries:

1. Because of the reviewer's request I have now added new text concerning molecular aspects of bacterial persistence in *H. pylori* colonization in the stomach. Moreover, biochemical details were also inserted in this file.
2. Because of the reviewer's request I have now added new references to review. Also, acomplete English polishing was also applied for this review before sending the revised version to the journal.
3. 5 figures and a table were designed which improved the context of the review a lot. This new items are available in revised version.

Reviewer 31756:

The paper titled PERSISTENT INFECTION OF HELICOBACTER PYLORI from Talebi Bezmin Abadi A is an interesting and well written review. My comments are listed below: Introduction: it is surprising that among the guidelines cited (ref. 2, 8-13) there is not the most recent one (Malfertheiner P, et al. Management of *Helicobacter pylori* infection—the Maastricht V/Florence Consensus Report. Gut 2016;0:1–25. doi:10.1136/gutjnl-2016-312288). Hp is found in two forms: spiral-shaped bacillus and coccoid. I'll be interested about the latter as a manifestation of cell adaptation to adverse conditions. References are numerically excessive. Moreover, it should be better to follow the WJG guidelines by adding DOI and PMID. References 18 and 63

(Lu H, Yamaoka Y, Graham DY. *Helicobacter pylori* virulence factors: facts and fantasies. Current opinion in gastroenterology. 2005;21(6):653-9.), together with references 8 and 11 (Malfertheiner P, Megraud F, O'Morain CA, Atherton J, Axon AT, Bazzoli F, et al. Management of *Helicobacter pylori* infection—the Maastricht IV/Florence consensus report. Gut. 2012;61(5):646-64.) are the same. It is redundant to use the same reference (Guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of *Helicobacter pylori* infection in Korea, 2013 revised edition published) in two languages (ref. 12 and 13). The reference 59 should be handled as a book chapter: O'Rourke J, Bode G. Morphology and Ultrastructure. In: Mobley HLT, Mendz GL, Hazell SL, editors. *Helicobacter pylori*: Physiology and Genetics. Washington (DC): ASM Press; 2001. Chapter 6. Reference 2 should be Talebi Bezmin Abadi A. Therapy of *Helicobacter pylori*: present medley and future prospective. Biomed Res Int. 2014;2014:124607. doi: 10.1155/2014/124607. Epub 2014 Apr 1. Ref. 81, 88, 166: the short name of Frontiers in Medicine is Front Med (Lausanne).

Response: I agree with the reviewer's comment,

1- So I reduced the number of references.

2- I used newer references to increase the value of the message raise from this paper.

3- Rest of the references mentioned were also updated according to the WJG endnote style.

Thanks for this nice comment.

-noted, all repeated references were removed and now the paper is without repeating reference!!