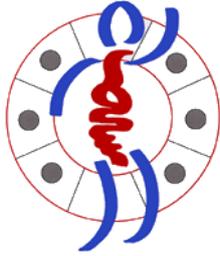


August 19, 2013



Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (ESPS manuscript no. 3690)

Title: Is the severity of gastroesophageal reflux dependent on hiatus hernia size?
(former title: Size of hiatus hernia, gastroesophageal reflux, and acid symptoms)

Author: Franzén Thomas, Tibbling Lita

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 3690

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

1 The title has been changed

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

(1) Thank you for your valuable comments. The title was indeed misleading and the title is now modified. It is correct that many international articles have presented acid reflux related symptoms in connection with hiatus hernia. However the importance of the size of a hiatus hernia has been poorly investigated. There are some articles about the size of the esophageal hiatus, not the hiatus hernia, as assessed during operation. These articles are referred to in our paper. The investigation parameters "acid symptoms" are now corrected = acid reflux related symptoms.

(2.) Thank you for your valuable comments. We did not exclude any patients with hernias 2-3 or 4-5 cm. The size of the hernia in our three groups is now specified to avoid misinterpretation. The investigation parameters "acid symptoms" are now corrected = acid reflux related symptoms. All patients that fulfilled the criterion of having a hiatus hernia were included. When the group size of 25 patients was obtained in each of the three groups, further hernia patients were excluded. That means that the article does not allow any conclusion on the frequency of the different sizes of hiatus hernia in a population.

(3) Thank you for your valuable comments. The spelling mistakes are corrected.

3 Abstract and Introduction are revised and Summary is added

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,

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