

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 39636

**Title:** Helicobacter pylori: A FOODBORNE PATHOGEN?

**Reviewer's code:** 02535288

**Reviewer's country:** China

**Science editor:** Ze-Mao Gong

**Date sent for review:** 2018-05-04

**Date reviewed:** 2018-05-06

**Review time:** 2 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This work by Drs. Quaglia et al., have reviewed the evidence of foods and water in the transmission of H. pylori to humans and the methods for detecting pathogens in foodstuffs and water. Numerous published works have tried to reveal the routes of how H. pylori infect human being, current work could not fully reveal the routes of



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infection, therefore further works in these areas will be a welcome. This work is therefore interesting with merit. The manuscript appears well organized and written, but also appears lengthy. Adding a few charts or cartoons may strengthen the overall quality of work and might be a better form of presentation for reader to understand available data and hypothesis. The work may require revision with supporting data to strengthen the claim and point out directions for future investigation to guide readers. Authors are encouraged to revise and make the manuscript more concise and attractive.

#### **INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT**

##### ***Google Search:***

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

##### ***BPG Search:***

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 39636

**Title:** Helicobacter pylori: A FOODBORNE PATHOGEN?

**Reviewer's code:** 00503628

**Reviewer's country:** United States

**Science editor:** Ze-Mao Gong

**Date sent for review:** 2018-05-04

**Date reviewed:** 2018-05-07

**Review time:** 3 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

### SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is timely and well-written review on an important topic regarding H. pylori transmission. It nicely summarizes work that has been done in that area.

### INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT



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*Google Search:*

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*BPG Search:*

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## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 39636

**Title:** Helicobacter pylori: A FOODBORNE PATHOGEN?

**Reviewer's code:** 01557050

**Reviewer's country:** Japan

**Science editor:** Ze-Mao Gong

**Date sent for review:** 2018-05-04

**Date reviewed:** 2018-05-09

**Review time:** 4 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

### SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Drs. Quaglia and Dambrosio, et al reviewed 'Helicobacter pylori: A FOODBORNE PATHOGEN? The manuscript is well-presented. The reviewer has some comments. The reviewer understood the existence of HP in water, foods and so on. In clinically, the reviewer is interested in the prevention of HP infection from foods. Then, we should

establish hygiene methods in each countries. Furthermore, the reviewer would like to know that the correlation between Cag A and carcinogenesis might be also infection from foods or not.

#### **INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT**

##### ***Google Search:***

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##### ***BPG Search:***

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## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 39636

**Title:** Helicobacter pylori: A FOODBORNE PATHOGEN?

**Reviewer's code:** 02441021

**Reviewer's country:** Egypt

**Science editor:** Ze-Mao Gong

**Date sent for review:** 2018-05-04

**Date reviewed:** 2018-05-10

**Review time:** 6 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input type="checkbox"/> No

### SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

EVIDENCE SUPPORTING THE ROLE FOR WATER IN THE TRANSMISSION OF H. pylori TO HUMANS Corrections: • Contaminated water can transmit diseases such as diarrhoea, cholera, dysentery, typhus and polio [82]..... Contaminated water can transmit diseases such as diarrhoea, cholera, dysentery, typhoid and polio [82]. • It has



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been estimated that H. pylori colonizes that more half of the world's population,..... It has been estimated that H. pylori colonizes more than half of the world's population, Occurrence of H. pylori in water Corrections: • Acanthamoeba, Naegleria, Vermamoeba or Balamuthia,.....should be in I talics .....Acanthamoeba, Naegleria, Vermamoeba or Balamuthia,

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## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 39636

**Title:** Helicobacter pylori: A FOODBORNE PATHOGEN?

**Reviewer's code:** 00183445

**Reviewer's country:** Poland

**Science editor:** Ze-Mao Gong

**Date sent for review:** 2018-05-04

**Date reviewed:** 2018-05-11

**Review time:** 7 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

### SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is a good and valuable article focusing on Helicobacter pylori a gastric pathogen as a potential foodborne pathogen. The article presents an overview of current knowledge about phenotypic characteristics, growth requirements of H. pylori, the reservoirs, transmission modes, including animals, water and foodstuff. Furthermore, the panel of

methods used for the detection of *H. pylori* in food and water has been described. Much attention has been devoted to the role of coccoid forms in the transmission of infection. Specific comments. Concerning human-to-human transmission I propose to add: *H. pylori* may be a sex transmitted pathogen (1. 2) and it may lead to fibrocystic breast changes (3). The oral cavity can be primarily colonized by *H. pylori* and this can be linked with later gastric infection (4). 1. Singh V et al, *Helicobacter pylori*: evidence for spouse-to-spouse transmission. *J. Gastroenterol Hepatol* 1999, 14:519-522. 2. Schutze K et al, *Helicobacter pylori* reinfection with identical organisms: transmission by the parents' spouses. *Gut* 1995, 36:831-833. 3. Kast RE. Some fibrocystic breast change may be caused by sexually transmitted *H. pylori* during oral nipple contact: Supporting literature and case report of resolution after gut *H. pylori* eradication treatment. *Med Hypotheses* 2007, 68:1041-1046. 4. Yee JKC. Are the view of *Helicobacter pylori* colonized in oral cavity an illusion?. *Nature. Experimental & Molecular Medicine* 2017 49, e397, DOI:10.1038/emm.2017.225 Chapter Microbiological Characteristics Phenotypic characteristics Page 5 "Bacteria in the VBNC state maintain their metabolic activity and pathogenicity and the ability to return to active regrowth conditions [37. 38]. This ability of *H. pylori* to overcome stress conditions...". The property of *H. pylori* to return to active regrowth conditions has not been proven. It should be clearly stated. Data in 37 and 38 articles relate to other gastric pathogens. Survival of *H. pylori* in foodstuff Page 8 "However, a study on survival of *H. pylori* in artificially contaminated spinach showed that the bacterium is able to survive for up to 6 days in VBNC forms that are still viable and virulent despite their lack of cultivability [54]" and Methods for the detection of *H. pylori* in foods and water Page 15 "...however, it has been hypothesized that VBNC forms may still be infective [131, 132] thus representing a potential microbiological risk for consumers' *H. pylori* VBNC are not infectious in the sense that *H. pylori* spiral forms are, which can multiply. However, during chronic *H. pylori* infection, VBNC



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forms can often arise in unfavorable conditions of inflammatory milieu and can be a source of virulence factors involved in the pathogenesis process: induction of gastric barrier dysfunction and the maintenance of pathologic inflammatory response. This should be more emphasized.

#### **INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT**

##### ***Google Search:***

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##### ***BPG Search:***

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## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 39636

**Title:** Helicobacter pylori: A FOODBORNE PATHOGEN?

**Reviewer's code:** 00055108

**Reviewer's country:** Norway

**Science editor:** Ze-Mao Gong

**Date sent for review:** 2018-05-04

**Date reviewed:** 2018-05-13

**Review time:** 9 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

### SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The major issue to this well-written manuscript is that it do not reveal any information regarding your method of search for appropriate literature to include in this review. Please consider to do so.

## INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

### *Google Search:*

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### *BPG Search:*

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- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 39636

**Title:** Helicobacter pylori: A FOODBORNE PATHOGEN?

**Reviewer's code:** 02444986

**Reviewer's country:** Turkey

**Science editor:** Ze-Mao Gong

**Date sent for review:** 2018-05-04

**Date reviewed:** 2018-05-13

**Review time:** 9 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

### SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

1. this is a review of literature for transmission of h. pylori 2. authors emphasised foods as a possible rote of transmission for h.pylori transmission. 3. there is no clear conclusion on whether h.pylori can be transmitted by oral-decal root. Authors did not make any comment on the feature studies to clarify this question.

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- ☐ No

### *BPG Search:*

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 39636

**Title:** Helicobacter pylori: A FOODBORNE PATHOGEN?

**Reviewer's code:** 00538725

**Reviewer's country:** China

**Science editor:** Ze-Mao Gong

**Date sent for review:** 2018-05-04

**Date reviewed:** 2018-05-13

**Review time:** 9 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
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			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

### SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

It's an informative review on the potential role of H. pylori as foodborne pathogen for human diseases. The contents considered the survival environment, transmission passage, and detection methods of H. pylori in food and water. The literature review work was adequate and up-to-date. It can be recommended for publication.



## INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

### *Google Search:*

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