

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 44654

**Title:** Efficacy of Detoxsan® powder on diarrhea caused by gastrointestinal neuroendocrine tumors

**Reviewer's code:** 00506481

**Reviewer's country:** India

**Science editor:** Jia-Ping Yan

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2018-11-26 05:18

**Reviewer performed review:** 2018-12-02 15:28

**Review time:** 6 Days and 10 Hours

| SCIENTIFIC QUALITY                                     | LANGUAGE QUALITY   | CONCLUSION                                 | PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS                      |
|--|--|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing | <input checked="" 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 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 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

A well conducted pilot study showing interesting findings to be shared with the scientific community.



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## 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:** 44654

**Title:** Efficacy of Detoxsan® powder on diarrhea caused by gastrointestinal neuroendocrine tumors

**Reviewer's code:** 02861617

**Reviewer's country:** Italy

**Science editor:** Jia-Ping Yan

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2018-12-14 11:20

**Reviewer performed review:** 2018-12-20 12:11

**Review time:** 6 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 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 checked="" 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

The paper is original and well written and deals with an interesting issue of NETs treatment. I, however, urge the authors to clarify some aspects: 1. The authors report that patients did not respond to standard treatment. I would like to see in Table 1 the dose



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and schedule of treatment with somatostatin analogues that was employed. This would help discussing about possible refractoriness to Tx. 2. Functional NETs (midgut carcinoid) tend to cause symptoms only if metastatic. The authors should report on disease stage. If they were disease-free after surgery for the primary lesion the diarrhea is most likely NOT due to the syndrome (serotonin). 3. Serotonin dosing in the blood is not a good marker; 24 hours urinary 5HIAA is far better. Comment or data on this. 4. Most patients might have diarrhea due to small intestine bacterial overgrowth which is a common complication of this kind of surgery. Did they receive treatment for this? Please comment and add data.

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

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- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 44654

**Title:** Efficacy of Detoxsan® powder on diarrhea caused by gastrointestinal neuroendocrine tumors

**Reviewer's code:** 02441744

**Reviewer's country:** United Kingdom

**Science editor:** Jia-Ping Yan

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2018-12-07 19:23

**Reviewer performed review:** 2018-12-20 14:12

**Review time:** 12 Days and 18 Hours

| 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 very interesting manuscript assessing a new product to help control NET induced diarrhoeas. It seems that more studies are needed to get clear conclusions but in any case, what I cannot understand is if a proper diet was recommended to all patients



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taking this medication or if they could have access to a professional to guide in dosages or continuation rather than making decisions by themselves. Then, you mentioned that all patients had standard treatment but it would be better to be more specific regarding the dose and intervals of either Octreotide or Lanreotide (were the intervals between injections shorter trying to control diarrhoea?). Were those patients using some Loperamide for example or Codeine at the same time to reduce bowel movements?. Were all of them in first line of treatment?, etc. Where the metastases? A Table with all these characteristics would be helpful (may be adding some columns to the table you have included already)

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

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

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- ☐ No