

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 52932

**Title:** Results of Meta-analysis should be treated critically

**Reviewer's code:** 00039316

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** FEBG, MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Associate Professor

**Reviewer's country:** Greece

**Author's country:** China

**Reviewer chosen by:** Jin-Zhou Tang

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2019-12-07 19:16

**Reviewer performed review:** 2019-12-07 19:31

**Review time:** 1 Hour

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 type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input checked="" 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

Thank you for identifying critical issues of meta-analysis. This issue of interpreting



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heterogeneity analysis results is crucial. Neither Q nor I<sup>2</sup> tests are explanatory. For example, we cannot estimate how much difference is between I<sup>2</sup>=14% and I<sup>2</sup>=57% or 61%. Automate calculation of I<sup>2</sup> 95% CIs is not available and the calculation is cumbersome. For conservative estimations, a priori use of random effects model analysis can be recommended. Please clarify what is the difference between the 2 analysis presented in the letter

#### **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:** 52932

**Title:** Results of Meta-analysis should be treated critically

**Reviewer's code:** 00505440

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MBBS, MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Doctor, Senior Lecturer

**Reviewer's country:** Australia

**Author's country:** China

**Reviewer chosen by:** Jin-Zhou Tang

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2019-12-07 23:11

**Reviewer performed review:** 2019-12-10 00:44

**Review time:** 2 Days and 1 Hour

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

I do not understand the relevance of this Letter. The bigger question is, "In whom does



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the risk of Hepatic Encephalopathy increase with the use of PPIs?" Millions of patients are prescribed and are on PPIs everyday. However, in my 16 years as a Hepato-pancreato-biliary and liver transplant surgeon, I have never encountered a case of Hepatic encephalopathy due to a PPI! Thus, while it is fair to point out the errors of the study by Ma et al., the clinical relevance of that meta-analysis and this letter need to be questioned.

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

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

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

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- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 52932

**Title:** Results of Meta-analysis should be treated critically

**Reviewer's code:** 00057983

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Associate Professor, Attending Doctor, Surgeon

**Reviewer's country:** Taiwan

**Author's country:** China

**Reviewer chosen by:** Jin-Zhou Tang

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2019-12-07 20:20

**Reviewer performed review:** 2019-12-14 15:07

**Review time:** 6 Days and 18 Hours

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
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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

I have the following comment. 1. Please mark the abbreviation of the words at the



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beginning of the text, e.g., proton pump inhibitors (PPI), hepatic encephalopathy (HE).

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

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

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- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No