

2013/11/06

Dear Editor,



Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 5514-edited.doc).

Firstly, we would like to add "Takeshi Kanno and Tomoyuki Koike" to the author's list. Both made significant contributions to this paper.

Title: *Helicobacter pylori*-negative, NSAID-negative idiopathic ulcers in Asia

Author: Katsunori Iijima, Takeshi Kanno, Tomoyuki Koike, Tooru Shimosegawa

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 5514

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

1 Format has been updated. The revised parts were underlined in the revised paper.

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

To the reviewer 02446417

We greatly appreciate the reviewer's evaluation to our paper.

To the reviewer 01800318

We appreciate the reviewer's thoughtful comments. We revised the paper at the reviewer's suggestion.

1. We added the following sentence in the last part of conclusion.

"Further multicenter studies from many different countries, with the same protocol, are necessary to investigate the real incidence of idiopathic ulcers and the real causes."

2. We agree with the reviewer's comment, and added the following description in the revised paper (P7, L20)

"which may be a potential cause for gastric ulcers but not for duodenal ulcers."

3. We accepted the reviewer's comment. Many studies demonstrated that patients with idiopathic ulcer are older than those with simple *H. pylori* ulcers or *H. pylori*/NSAID ulcers, but these observation may be the results that older age may be a mere confounder of other risk factors such as systemic complications or psychological stress. We added the following description in the revised paper (P7, L16-17).

"although older age may be a mere confounder of the following risk factors such as systemic complications or psychological stress."

To the reviewer 00503686

We greatly appreciate the reviewer's evaluation to our paper, and revised the language as the reviewer indicated (file name: Manuscript_20130911173111).

3 References and typesetting were corrected

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

Sincerely yours,

Katsunori Iijima

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