

December 07, 2013

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: AJE_Edited_6J1T5TN8_R1- Hpylory final_rev neuza_clean_Apos_revisao EDITED_edited2_final_ES 07.12.2013 - clean.doc).

Title: Cytokines, cytokine gene polymorphisms and Helicobacter pylori infection: Friend or foe?

Author: Camila A Figueiredo, Cintia Rodrigues Marques, Ryan dos Santos Costa, Hugo Bernardino F. da Silva and Neuza M Alcantara-Neves

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 5989

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

Comments to authors

Reviewer #1:

Thank you for this article

Main points:

- 1.The importance of the research and the significance of the research contents is high
- 2.The novelty and innovation of the research is actual due to great prevalence of Helicobacter pylori infection in the world and its importance in pathogenesis of different diseases
- 3.Presentation and readability of the manuscript is good
4. Ethical aspects aren't broken in the research.

Other points:

Materials and methods: please clarify in the article how you searched reference articles? It was a systemic or casual selection?

Discussion: Please allocate this section in the separate section in the end of article.

Please check the text:

- In the article there are some grammatical mistakes such as: usage “a” in place of “an”, “were” in place of “was” , MΦ in place of MF and ect.
- Usage of some terms: may be “gastric ulcer” and “peptic ulcer” change to “ ulcer disease”
- Please check identification numbers of references: for example, ^[n] or (N)
- In text is repeating of whole term: vacuolating toxin A (VacA) – two times
- CagPAI – please clarify – Pathogenicity Island

Author's comments: We thank reviewer #1 for the suggestions. All the suggested changes by reviewer # 1 were properly applied to the manuscript.

Figueiredo et al., has been reviewed on the recent research of Cytokines, cytokine gene polymorphisms and Helicobacter pylori infection in this manuscript and authors have described concise and summarized well. Figures were suitable for audience to understand what this manuscript address. I recommend this manuscript to publish in WJG.

This is a concise review describing the pathogenicity of *H. pylori*, host immunity against *H. pylori* infection, and cytokine polymorphisms associated with the infection of the bacterium and with occurrence of gastric diseases. The review is relatively well-written, but there are some criticisms for revision.

1) In the fifth paragraph of the section 2, authors described that "... weak serum IgG antibody responsesrisk of gastric cancer development". However, several reports have indicated that gastric cancer risk is positively correlated with higher serum antibody levels against *H. pylori* (Yoshida et al. Int J cancer 2013, Sep 5, Epub, Watanabe et al. Int J cancer, 2012, 131;2632).

Authors should refer to these papers and explain the discrepancy.

2) In the section 3, authors described the correlation between gene polymorphisms and *H. pylori* infection/pathogenesis based on the type of cytokine gene. However, SNPs associated with bacterium infection must differ from those associated with neoplasm susceptibility. Therefore, SNPs associated with infection, those associated with cancer development, and those associated with peptic ulcers, etc. should be discussed separately. Hence, the gene based contexture of the section 3 should be thoroughly changed to the infection/disease-association based contexture. Fig 2. should also be modified as reflects the change of the text, i.e., the difference among SNPs associated with infection, those associated with cancer development, and those of other types should be depicted clearly.

3) There are a lot of type errors. In particular, a lot of Greek letters were not converted correctly

Author's comments: We thank reviewer #2 for your suggestions. All the suggested changes by reviewer # 2 were properly applied to the manuscript.