

ANSWERING REVIEWERS

22 November 2013



Editor in Chief
World Journal of Gastroenterology

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: WJG Helicobacter pylori in AiD CORRECTED 15 11 2013.doc).

Title: Helicobacter pylori and autoimmune disease: cause or bystander

Authors: Daniel S Smyk, Andreas L Koutsoumpas, Maria G Mytilinaiou, Eirini I Rigopoulou, Lazaros I Sakkas, Dimitrios P Bogdanos

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 6047

We appreciate the comments of the Reviewers, and the manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of Reviewers. All changes can be found underlined within the revised version:

-We have corrected the address of the corresponding author (please note that there is no street address), in addition to the phone and fax number.

-An excel version of the figure will be added to the upload.

Specific Comments from Reviewer 1:

Comment: Abstract, line 13: slected Core tip: "...discuss a select..."

Response: We have re-phrased this sentence, and it is underlined in the abstract.

Comment: Abbreviations: Sj?gren'

Response: The correct spelling is underlined in the abbreviations.

Comment: Page 8, Introduction: The number of listed disorders in Table 2 is 61, not 65.

Response: We appreciate the Reviewer noting this, and we have changed the umber of conditions to 61 within the text.

Comment: Page 10, line 3: ofmale

Response: This has been corrected, and is underlined on page 7.

Comment: Page 16, Section 4: missing commas before and after "recurrent aphthous stomatitis", rosackea

Response: We thank the Reviewer for noting this error, and the appropriate punctuation has been added (underlined on page 12).

Comment: Page 17: a break in line 16

Response: We thank the Reviewer for this comment.

Comment: Page 21. line 12: missing a period after “research”

Response: The missing period has been added.

Comment: Page 21, 6 line from the bottom: two commas before “cerebrovascular”

Response: The additional comma has been removed.

Comment: Page 26, 11 line. i. e

Response: We thank the Reviewer for noting this.

Comments from Reviewer 2:

Comment: The author reviewed the relationship between H pylori infection and autoimmune diseases. Although most animal models of autoimmune diseases do not rely on H. pylori infection for the induction of the disease or do not provide data to support that this pathogen is needed for disease’s development. So most of the mechanisms discussed in the literature remain hypotheses that require more extensive investigation. However, the author suggested the current evidence in support or against the role of H. pylori as a potential trigger of autoimmune diseases, as well as discussed selected autoimmune conditions, both organ specific and non-organ specific, which have an evidence base (positive or negative) in relation to H. pylori infection. I think this review is very interesting and also provided helpful hints for future research.

Response: We appreciate the comments from the Reviewer.

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

Yours Sincerely

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