

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 63065

**Title:** Preoperative physiological esophageal assessment for anti-reflux surgery: A guide for surgeons on HRM and pH testing

**Reviewer's code:** 03242050

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Doctor, Professor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** China

**Author's Country/Territory:** United States

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-01-23

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-01-25 13:54

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-01-29 14:36

**Review time:** 4 Days

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

#### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

Pre-operative evaluation should be aimed at confirming the diagnosis of GERD, ruling out major motility disorders, and selecting appropriate surgical candidates. HRM and pH testing are key tests to consider for patients with GERD like symptoms. Patients with true LES dysfunction would benefit from surgical intervention. The viewpoint of this article is objective and forward-looking.

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 63065

**Title:** Preoperative physiological esophageal assessment for anti-reflux surgery: A guide for surgeons on HRM and pH testing

**Reviewer's code:** 03093768

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Associate Professor, Doctor, Surgeon, Surgical Oncologist

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** China

**Author's Country/Territory:** United States

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-01-23

**Reviewer chosen by:** Jin-Lei Wang

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-01-25 06:28

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-01-31 07:16

**Review time:** 6 Days

<b>Scientific quality</b>	[ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] Grade A: Excellent [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Grade B: Very good [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Grade C: Good [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Grade D: Fair [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	[ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] Grade A: Priority publishing [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Grade B: Minor language polishing [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	[ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] Accept (High priority) [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Accept (General priority) [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Minor revision [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Major revision [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	[ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Yes [ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: [ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] Anonymous [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Yes [ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] No



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#### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

This is a comprehensive review of the application status of HRM and PH measurement in gastroesophageal reflux disease. The writing is great, and the documentation is comprehensive and representative. two questions: 1. In the "Manometry and Motility Testing" section, "While there is limited data to support mandatory pre-operative manometry testing, the ACG still recommends HRM to specifically rule out achalasia and scleroderma [5]". However, in reference 5, Manometry but not HRM is recommended by ACG. I think HRM is a kind of manometry, but it cannot replace it. I tend to use "manometry", which is more precise. 2. Does Reference 6 equal to "Surg Endosc (2010) 24:2647-2669, 10.1007/s00464-010-1267-8"? Does Reference 44 equal to "Surg Endosc (2012) 26:296-311, DOI 10.1007/s00464-011-2017-2"? If yes, citing the corresponding papers will make it easier for reading.

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 63065

**Title:** Preoperative physiological esophageal assessment for anti-reflux surgery: A guide for surgeons on HRM and pH testing

**Reviewer's code:** 04068828

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Japan

**Author's Country/Territory:** United States

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-01-23

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-01-24 00:12

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<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

## **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

The authors performed literature review about preoperative esophageal assessment for GERD patients, especially by HRM and MII-pH. The manuscript is well-written. I have some comments for the manuscript as below. Major comments: 1. Table 1. To make the table easy to understand, the listed diseases should be classified with broader disease concepts, then go on to specific diseases as it is. "Weak Acid Reflux", "Functional heartburn" and "Reflux hypersensitivity" should be a part of GERD. Similarly, "Achalasia", "Distal Esophageal Spasm", Hypercontractile Esophagus", and "EGJ outflow obstruction" should be within the spectrum of esophageal motility disorders. 2. GERD was never defined in the manuscript. Does "GERD" in the manuscript mean patients with reflux symptoms or a condition which develops when the reflux of stomach contents causes troublesome symptoms and/or complications as in Montreal classification? 3. Figure 4. MII-pH is also important to detect supragastric belching. 4. Page 7-8. In "Manometry and Motility Testing" section, it should describe that HRM can measure the size of hiatus hernia precisely. (United European Gastroenterol J. 2018 Aug;6(7):981-989.) 5. Page 9, line 15-17. The main indication of HRM prior to anti-reflux surgery is rule out major esophageal motility disorder not only achalasia or scleroderma because abnormal esophageal contraction itself can underlie reflux symptoms. Additionally, assessing esophageal peristalsis is also important to predict post-operative dysphagia. 6. Page 9, line 15-17, 28. HRM can speculate scleroderma by absent peristalsis but cannot diagnose it. Additionally, achalasia is unlikely to have gastroesophageal reflux. However, achalasia can manifest itself as reflux symptoms. Probably the esophageal pressurization or contraction, or the to-and-fro movement of bolus inside the esophagus underlie those reflux symptoms. 7. Page 10, line 13. "Scleroderma" is not a term of esophageal motility disorder in Chicago classification. It would be good to

replace it with “absent peristalsis”, which paragraph explains scleroderma is often accompanied by that motility disorder. 8. Page 12, line 26, 27. What did RDC improve the sensitivity and specificity of HRM to diagnose? 9. Page 14, line 8, 9. Supragastric belching (SGB) is not necessarily more common in FD than in GERD. In fact, approximately 40% of NERD and reflux hypersensitivity showed pathological SGB (Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2020 Apr 6;S1542-3565(20)30440-7.). 10. Page 14, line 12, 13. SGB can induce gastroesophageal reflux, which means LES relaxation can be triggered by SGB. 11. Page 14, line 27~Page 15, line 2. ARS might be a potential option for rumination. However, it should be stressed that psychological intervention such as cognitive behavioral therapy is the first-line treatment for rumination. Minor comments: 1. Page 4, line 26. The sentence “Another important aspect of the patient’s history it to assess their response to PPI therapy,” should be corrected. 2. Page 11, line 11. “Opioid Induced-Opioid induced esophageal dysfunction (OIED)” should be corrected. 3. Figure 1B. There seem many acid refluxes other than ones indicated by stars. The remaining ones also should be indicated. 4. Page 12, line 20 and 22. Figure 1 and 2 do not seem to fit statements.

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 63065

**Title:** Preoperative physiological esophageal assessment for anti-reflux surgery: A guide for surgeons on HRM and pH testing

**Reviewer's code:** 02887553

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Associate Professor, Surgeon

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Turkey

**Author's Country/Territory:** United States

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-01-23

**Reviewer chosen by:** Jin-Lei Wang

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**Review time:** 1 Hour

<b>Scientific quality</b>	[ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] Grade A: Excellent [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Grade B: Very good [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Grade C: Good [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Grade D: Fair [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	[ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] Grade A: Priority publishing [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Grade B: Minor language polishing [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	[ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] Accept (High priority) [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Accept (General priority) [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Minor revision [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Major revision [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	[ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] Yes [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: [ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] Anonymous [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Yes [ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] No



#### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

Dear Authors, This study is a detailed review of the application status of preoperative HRM and pH measurement in gastroesophageal reflux. It is well written. I do not have any comments. The Manuscript should be published in World Journal of Gastroenterology. Thanks.

## RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 63065

**Title:** Preoperative physiological esophageal assessment for anti-reflux surgery: A guide for surgeons on HRM and pH testing

**Reviewer's code:** 04068828

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Japan

**Author's Country/Territory:** United States

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-01-23

**Reviewer chosen by:** Han Zhang (Part-Time Editor)

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-02-19 09:21

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-02-20 06:50

**Review time:** 21 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors improved the manuscript significantly.