

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS

December 11, 2013

Dear Editor,



Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 6709-review.doc).

Title: Gastric cancer research in Mexico: a public health priority

Author: Clara Luz Sampieri, Mauricio Mora

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 6709

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

1 Format has been updated

- (1) **For manuscripts submitted by non-native speakers of English, please provide language certificate by professional English language editing companies mentioned in 'The Revision Policies of BPG for TOPIC HIGHLIGHT'.**

Dear Editor: The manuscript has not been reviewed by professional English language editing companies. It is important to mention:

- The manuscript was reviewed by a Scottish scientist (English native speaker).
- The corresponding author studied her PhD in England (University of East Anglia).
- The 00646379 reviewer registered A in language evaluation section.
- The 02822828 reviewer registered B in language evaluation section.

- (2) **Please provide full name.**

Clara Luz Sampieri. Name: *Clara*, Middle name: *Luz*, Surname: *Sampieri*

Mauricio Mora: Name: *Mauricio*, Surname: *Mora*

- (3) **Please put all figures and tables at the end of your paper.**

Done

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

- (1) **There is an inconsistency of presentation in the summary section of pages 2 and 3. In the "Aim" section it is stated that one of the goals is "to assess their contributions to the primary and secondary prevention of this disease". In the Method section it is consistently described how the authors address this objective, as well as in the conclusion section, where the authors summarize their recommendations. However in the results section I cannot find a brief summary of and in what quantity Mexican institutes are contributing to the primary and secondary prevention of this disease. For completeness please add this in the result section.**

The authors were unable to find evidence to prove that the healthcare system has considered the studies reviewed here to plan programs for primary and secondary prevention of gastric cancer in Mexico. It is important to note that in Mexico prevention programs are governed by the official Mexican standards (*Normas Oficiales Mexicanas*) and there is no official Mexican standard for gastric cancer. This information was included in the introduction section (page 7):

"no specific program exists for its prevention, nor is there an official Mexican standard (Norma Oficial Mexicana) for its prevention, detection, treatment and control. An official clinical practice guide was published only in 2009 for the diagnosis and treatment of gastric adenocarcinoma in adult patients [8]." In the results section it is mentioned that the clinical guide for gastric cancer in Mexico contains only two studies conducted in Mexico, among his few references (page 13): "The paucity of research into gastric cancer of any form is reflected in the fact that in the official clinical practice

guide for diagnosis and treatment of the gastric adenocarcinoma in adult patients[8], produced only four years ago by the Ministry of Health, only two of the 33 references correspond to studies conducted on Mexican patients and in Mexican institutes."

- (2) **I also think that the conclusion reads like a recommendation to the Mexican healthcare officials but should be a more neutrally summary in the beginning and evaluate the results and may have such kind of recommendation at the end of the conclusion section.**

We consider that results were evaluated, and this observation is already included in the conclusion section (page 20): "The few studies of gastric cancer in the Mexican population included in this review reveal little or no linkage between the scientific community and the health sector to resolve this health problem. It is necessary that public policies in health research direct initiatives for the formation of research networks that include experts from different disciplines. Such networks could generate, among other academic products, an official Mexican standard (*Norma oficial Mexicana*) for the prevention, detection, treatment and control of gastric cancer."

- (3) **Beside that, the authors present a very complete and accurate work that certainly has be a lot of work. They show that the is a number of studies regarding prevalence, risk factors, H pylori, etc but a systematic evaluation of the population is missing that could, if it would exist, lead to nationwide recommendation and possible screening programs.**

Not exist and this is already mentioned in the conclusion section (please see previous answer)

3 References and typesetting were corrected.

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

Sincerely yours,



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