



### PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** *World Journal of Clinical Cases*

**Manuscript NO:** 76433

**Title:** Local inflammatory response to gastroesophageal reflux: Association of gene expression of inflammatory cytokines with esophageal multichannel intraluminal impedance-pH data

**Provenance and peer review:** Invited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 06250380

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

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

**Author's Country/Territory:** Russia

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-03-16

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-03-17 06:07

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-03-17 06:20

**Review time:** 1 Hour

<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 Grade E: Do not publish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 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 type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection



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<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**

Authors should strongly justify the necessity to conduct the described research. This part of the introduction is insufficient. Case-control, study design diagram should be given



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**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 02441035

**Position:** Associate Editor

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Professor

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

**Author's Country/Territory:** Russia

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-03-16

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**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-03-20 15:34

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-03-27 15:34

**Review time:** 6 Days and 23 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 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**

This is a valuable study were the Authors explored the expression of inflammatory cytokines' genes in esophageal mucosa in patients with erosive esophagitis (EE) and non-erosive (NERD) forms of gastroesophageal reflux disease and its association with the data of esophageal multichannel intraluminal pH-impedance measurements, with a control group of non-symptomatic subjects with normal endoscopy and pH-impedance results. The study has been carried out well in all respects and contains findings not previously reported in the literature. However in the Discussion the Authors should discuss more widely and deeply the impact of these results on clinical research. For example, what is the impact of different profile of local expression of cytokines genes in subgroups of patients with EE and NERD? The absence of an association of IL-10 expression with acid exposure and the fact that the mean esophageal pH values of the EE group did not differ from those of NERD group could have also another possible explanation. The weakly acidic refluxes could contain deoxycholic acid, that impairs integrity of the esophageal mucosa (Am J Physiol Gastrointest Liver Physiol. 2016;310:G487-96 and Neurogastroenterol Motil. 2020 Dec;32(12):e13919.), being arrived in the esophagus through a duodeno-gastro-esophageal reflux, which is a not uncommon event and must be taken into account in pathophysiology of esophagitis. We agree with the Authors that the relatively small number of patients is a limitation of the study which prevents further subdivision of subgroups for more in-depth analysis of correlations. I hope the sample size can be expanded in the future, possibly with bile reflux monitoring.



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