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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Clinical Cases

Manuscript NO: 55324

Title: Efficacy of Stool Multiplex Polymerase Chain Reaction Assay in Adult Patients with Acute Infectious Diarrhea

Reviewer's code: 00050195
Position: Editorial Board
Academic degree: MA, MD, MSc
Professional title: Associate Professor, Senior Lecturer
Reviewer's Country/Territory: Israel
Author's Country/Territory: South Korea

Manuscript submission date: 2020-03-11
Reviewer chosen by: Jin-Zhou Tang (Quit in 2020)
Reviewer accepted review: 2020-04-12 07:35
Reviewer performed review: 2020-04-14 05:44
Review time: 1 Day and 22 Hours

Scientific quality	[ ] Grade A: Excellent [Y] Grade B: Very good [ ] Grade C: Good [ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish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

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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors have produced a well written and important manuscript examining the efficacy of stool PCR testing together with fecal calprotectin in acute infectious diarrhea in patients from Korea. It is a well-designed study with good statistical analysis. I have several minor comments. Firstly, the manuscript needs minor revision by a native English speaker. Secondly, it is clear that the stool PCR is more sensitive than conventional culture techniques. This is very important. I think a comment about potential use of PCR in the future for detecting known mutation resulting in bacterial resistance to antibiotic therapy would be a good complementary point to make. Thirdly, on the last page of the discussion section the authors write "Our study did not include stool PCR result, but this is a central part of the paper and stool PCR results were available. I think the fact that fecal calprotectin gas been shown to be elevated in infectious diarrhea needs to be emphasized especially since follow up of fecal calprotectin is now routine in patients with IBD. This needs to be emphasized since inappropriate steroid use for patients with IBD and an elevated calprotectin could be harnful if there is an infectious cause for the diarrhea. Table 1 is not esthetic and should be improved. The authors address the study limitations.

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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Clinical Cases

Manuscript NO: 55324

Title: Efficacy of Stool Multiplex Polymerase Chain Reaction Assay in Adult Patients with Acute Infectious Diarrhea

Reviewer's code: 02840182
Position: Peer Reviewer
Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Associate Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Turkey

Author's Country/Territory: South Korea

Manuscript submission date: 2020-03-11

Reviewer chosen by: Jin-Zhou Tang (Quit in 2020)

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-04-12 12:55

Reviewer performed review: 2020-04-16 08:01

Review time: 3 Days and 19 Hours

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

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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors have compared efficacy of stool multiplex PCR assay in adult patients with acute infectious diarrhea with stool cultere and inflammation markers in their retrospective study. It is known that stool multiplex PCR assay is a sensitive and practical method for identification of diarrheal pathogens in children who suffered from gastroenteritis widely . Fecal calprotectin is sensitive but not specific marker for IBD. And we know that fecal calprotectin elevation is seen in acute or chronic gastroenteritis caused by invasive pathogens. So please remove the sentence of ….Thus, fecal calprotectin assay is further required to be validated in acute infectious diarrhea. This study is important for demonstration of adult results.