

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 37541

Title: Can bacterial virulence factors predict antibiotic resistant *Helicobacter pylori* infection?

Reviewer's code: 00504545

Reviewer's country: Spain

Science editor: Xue-Jiao Wang

Date sent for review: 2018-01-10

Date reviewed: 2018-01-13

Review time: 2 Days

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

It is a very good paper clearly written and described, showing and increased of the antibiotic resistance in less virulent strain in Ireland and this a very interesting finding

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 37541

Title: Can bacterial virulence factors predict antibiotic resistant *Helicobacter pylori* infection?

Reviewer's code: 03474116

Reviewer's country: Japan

Science editor: Xue-Jiao Wang

Date sent for review: 2018-01-10

Date reviewed: 2018-01-13

Review time: 2 Days

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

General: In this study, the authors investigated to evaluate the association between virulence factor type of *H. pylori* and antibiotic resistance in *H. pylori*-infected patients in Ireland. Primary clarithromycin resistance was significantly lower in *cagA*-positive strains than in negative strains. Similarly, in patients infected with *vacA* s1 type, primary clarithromycin resistance was significantly lower than in those infected with *vacA* s2 type. Authors concluded that less virulent strains of *H. pylori* are associated with primary clarithromycin resistance. Major comments: 1. Less virulent strains of *H. pylori* are associated with primary clarithromycin resistance. Why not fluoroquinolone? 2. Why are less virulent (*cagA*-negative and *vacA* s2-containing) strains of *H. pylori* associated with primary clarithromycin resistance? 3. Most of East Asian population infected with high virulent strains of *H. pylori*, *cagA*-positive and *vacA* s1m1 type. Do



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you think that eradication rate in East Asian population is higher than that in H. pylori-infected patients in Ireland? 4. Ref 4 showed that the absence of cagA is a risk factor for developing metronidazole resistance. Why did not author check association with metronidazole resistance and virulence of H. pylori? 5. Fig1: Cag positive stain of H pylori may be difficult to become clarithromycin resistance strain. Is it true? 6. Please add data of history of clarithromycin use, smoking and alcohol in Fig 1. 7. The data about histological and endoscopic findings in Table 2 is not accurate. Please re-evaluate according to the up-dated Sydney system or OLGA grading system. 8. Please divide data into total, Naïve and Previously in Table 2. 9. What statistical analysis method did author perform in Table 3 to 6? Because it is expected that the statistical methods will be different, you should check with statisticians.

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 37541

Title: Can bacterial virulence factors predict antibiotic resistant *Helicobacter pylori* infection?

Reviewer's code: 01557050

Reviewer's country: Japan

Science editor: Xue-Jiao Wang

Date sent for review: 2018-01-10

Date reviewed: 2018-01-16

Review time: 5 Days

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Dr. Brennan and Dr. Smith, et al. reported 'Can bacterial virulence factors predict antibiotic resistant *Helicobacter pylori* infection? The article is informative and well-presented. The reviewer has some minor comments. Comments 1. In Table 3, please insert by one line in 'Susceptible to clarithromycin (WT)', 'Resistant to clarithromycin, 'Point mutations' each. And in Table 4, please insert by one line in 'Susceptible to fluoroquinolones (WT)', 'Resistant to fluoroquinolones, 'Point mutations' each.