

ANSWERING REVIEWERS

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 55671

Title: *Helicobacter pylori* infection: beyond gastric manifestations

Reviewer's code: 04913316

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Full Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Italy

Dear reviewer,

We are glad for the great evaluation and for your comments about our manuscript. Your suggestions were very useful in the improvement of the scientific quality of this article. We listed the changes suggested by you below and they were highlighted in yellow at the manuscript file:

- 1) We deleted the repeated reference (51);
- 2) We discussed the study by Cotticelli L et al (Eur J Ophthalmol 2006; 16:264-278) showing an association between *H. pylori* infection and central serous chorioretinopathy, as you suggested;
- 3) We discussed the manuscript by Sgambato D et al recently published in United European Gastroenterol J (2018; 6:1470-1476) about the route of transmission of the infection in the introduction;

Best regards,

Fabício Freire de Melo

Professor, PhD

Reviewer's code: 02954663

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Chief Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Hungary

Dear reviewer,

Thank you for your evaluation of our manuscript. No comment was made by you, but the following changes were made in order to improve the quality of our manuscript:

- 1) We discussed the study by Cotticelli L et al (Eur J Ophthalmol 2006; 16:264-278) showing an association between *H. pylori* infection and central serous chorioretinopathy (highlighted in yellow at the manuscript file);
- 2) We discussed the manuscript by Sgambato D et al recently published in United European Gastroenterol J (2018; 6:1470-1476) about the route of transmission of the infection in the introduction (highlighted in yellow at the manuscript file);
- 3) We added a table summarizing the level of evidence of the risk associations between *H. pylori* infection and non-gastroduodenal diseases (highlighted in green at the manuscript file);

- 4) We emphasized the inclusion of *Helicobacter pylori* eradication in the clinical management guidelines of some non-gastroduodenal diseases (highlighted in blue at the manuscript file);
- 5) A topic discussing the condition Halitosis was added (highlighted in pink at the manuscript file).

Best regards,

Fabrício Freire de Melo

Professor, PhD

Reviewer's code: 00503417

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: N/A

Professional title: Doctor, Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: India

Dear reviewer,

Thank you very much for the valuable comments about our manuscript. They were very important for the improvement of the quality of this article. The World Journal of Gastroenterology is a very important source of information for researchers and health care providers worldwide. In that context, this journal provides relevant and actualized data on important issues in gastroenterology field for its readers. Moreover, the research on the non-gastroduodenal manifestations associated with *Helicobacter pylori* infection has significantly grown in the last years and represents an important issue in medical practice, with various new findings being published every year. Therefore, this manuscript aimed to provide a broad, actualized, and historically contextualized

(Figure 1) review on the risk associations and pathophysiology of *H. pylori*-linked non-gastroduodenal manifestations, gathering the current evidence on that topic. Although other reviews were published on this topic in the last years, various new findings on that theme have been published after that. As an example, the most recent review published on this topic (Franceschi F, Covino M, Roubaud Baudron C. Review: Helicobacter pylori and extragastric diseases. Helicobacter. 2019 Sep;24 Suppl 1:e12636) did not include a number of conditions that were discussed in our article (halitosis, cholecystitis, cholelithiasis, rosacea, chronic urticaria, open-angle glaucoma, blepharitis, Guillain-Barré syndrome, and gastroesophageal reflux disease) and also did not discuss the new findings about the pathophysiology of the *H. pylori*-induced non-gastroduodenal conditions, which was done in our manuscript. Furthermore, the systematization of the role of *H. pylori* as a risk or a protective factor in the studied conditions (Figure 2) is another innovative aspect included by our manuscript. Finally, in order to improve the quality of our paper, we added a table summarizing the level of evidence of the risk associations between *H. pylori* infection and non-gastroduodenal diseases, as you suggested (Table 2, highlighted in green at the manuscript file).

Best regards,

Fabício Freire de Melo

Professor, PhD

Reviewer's code: 03010350

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Russia

Dear reviewer,

We are glad for the great evaluation and for your valuable comments on our manuscript. No changes in the manuscript are needed according your comments.

Best regards,

Fabrício Freire de Melo

Professor, PhD

Reviewer's code: 00051367

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Doctor, Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Italy

Dear reviewer,

Thank you for the great evaluation and valuable comments on our manuscript. The suggestions you provided were crucial for the improvement of the quality of our manuscript. Aiming to attend to your suggestions, the following changes were made:

- 1) A topic discussing the condition Halitosis was added (highlighted in pink at the manuscript file);
- 2) A table summarizing evidences of each non-gastroduodenal condition was added, as you suggested (in green at the manuscript file).

Best regards,

Fabrício Freire de Melo

Professor, PhD

Reviewer's code: 01799104

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: AGAF, MD

Professional title: Associate Professor, Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Taiwan

Dear reviewer,

We are glad for your evaluation and for your great comments on our paper. Your suggestions were very important to the improvement of the quality of our article. See below the point-to-point changes according your comments (they are highlighted in blue at the manuscript file):

- 1) We added a figure summarizing the role of *Helicobacter pylori* infection as a protective or a risk factor in non-gastroduodenal conditions (Figure 2);
- 2) We emphasized the inclusion of *Helicobacter pylori* eradication in the clinical management guidelines of some non-gastroduodenal diseases;
- 3) The queer symbols reported by you were not detectable in our manuscript file. It could have occurred due to a problem when you performed the download or when you opened the manuscript file in your text editor software.

Best regards,

Fabício Freire de Melo

Professor, PhD