



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Clinical Pediatrics

Manuscript NO: 56625

Title: Gastroesophageal reflux disease in pediatric esophageal atresia: assessment of clinical symptoms and pH-impedance data

Reviewer's code: 03317263

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Romania

Author's Country/Territory: Belarus

Manuscript submission date: 2020-05-28

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-05-28 10:56

Reviewer performed review: 2020-05-28 11:09

Review time: 1 Hour

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|---------------------------------|---|
| Scientific quality | <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 Grade E: Do not publish |
| Language quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection |
| Conclusion | <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 |
| Re-review | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Peer-reviewer statements | Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |



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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Nice study. Would like to know more about the interval between symptoms and exploration of reflux; discuss please any correlation also with severity and therapy. The subtitle national cohort study seems very ambitious: was this indeed a national study? were all cases included or you proceeded to a random selection of subjects? Language needs improvement.



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Title: Gastroesophageal reflux disease in pediatric esophageal atresia: assessment of clinical symptoms and pH-impedance data

Reviewer's code: 03832032

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Switzerland

Author's Country/Territory: Belarus

Manuscript submission date: 2020-05-28

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-05-28 09:42

Reviewer performed review: 2020-05-28 12:41

Review time: 2 Hours

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| Scientific quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish |
| Language quality | <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 |
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

I want to thank the authors for bringing up an important and interesting topic, actually reaching far more than the topic suggest. It touches issues like asymptomatic GER and LPR. However, I have a few questions and issues I want to bring up: In general, I'd concentrate the paper more on symptoms and the underlying pH-metry. Further, this paper profited from a massive shortening, otherwise it is well written.

- 1 Title. Does the title reflect the main subject/hypothesis of the manuscript? yes
- 2 Abstract. Does the abstract summarize and reflect the work described in the manuscript? yes.
- 3 Key words. Do the key words reflect the focus of the manuscript? yes
- 4 Background. Does the manuscript adequately describe the background, present status and significance of the study? this point needs more work: why is the follow-up necessary when patients don't have symptoms: what is the incidence of Barretts'esophagus or carcinoma after AE?
- 5 Methods. Does the manuscript describe methods (e.g., experiments, data analysis, surveys, and clinical trials, etc.) in adequate detail? Remove the description of your hospital. National single-center study: a little bit confusing Prospective study: recorded in clinical trials? Or retrospectively analyzed? The surgical procedures need an accurate description? Were there any gastric/colonic pull-ups?
- 6 Results. Are the research objectives achieved by the experiments used in this study? What are the contributions that the study has made for research progress in this field? we need the time interval from operation to follow-up I have a hard time understanding how children let's say <5y express their GERD symptoms. This might explain why coughing is one of the foremost symptoms. Further, there is a huge inclusion bias towards patients with symptoms. pH-metry in patients is not an easy thing to do, not even touching the financial problems. Why didn't you perform manometry? This would bring additional valuable information I think would help clarify your results. I'm not really sure if you



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can MNBI as parameter as it is measured at a different location in all patients I'm quite sure that gastroparesis has a huge effect (after expected vagotomy), did you test for that? Is NMBI correlated with future metaplasia? 7 Discussion. Does the manuscript interpret the findings adequately and appropriately, highlighting the key points concisely, clearly and logically? Are the findings and their applicability/relevance to the literature stated in a clear and definite manner? Is the discussion accurate and does it discuss the paper's scientific significance and/or relevance to clinical practice sufficiently? Discuss LPR 8 Illustrations and tables. Are the figures, diagrams and tables sufficient, good quality and appropriately illustrative of the paper contents? Do figures require labeling with arrows, asterisks etc., better legends? Actually, please confer Brant Oelschlagers study about Fundoplication in Annals of Surgery around 2015, and relate more to those figures 9 Biostatistics. Does the manuscript meet the requirements of biostatistics? yes 10 Units. Does the manuscript meet the requirements of use of SI units? yes 11 References. Does the manuscript cite appropriately the latest, important and authoritative references in the introduction and discussion sections? Does the author self-cite, omit, incorrectly cite and/or over-cite references? yes 12 Quality of manuscript organization and presentation. Is the manuscript well, concisely and coherently organized and presented? Is the style, language and grammar accurate and appropriate? yes



RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

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Title: Gastroesophageal reflux disease in pediatric esophageal atresia: assessment of clinical symptoms and pH-impedance data

Reviewer's code: 03832032

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Switzerland

Author's Country/Territory: Belarus

Manuscript submission date: 2020-05-28

Reviewer chosen by: Dong-Mei Wang (Technical Editor)

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-07-24 08:00

Reviewer performed review: 2020-07-24 09:28

Review time: 1 Hour

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| Scientific quality | <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 |
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Thank you for the revisions. Most of the points are adequately addressed and all important issues are clarified. Even though the paper could be shortened even more, it is interesting to read and focused according to the title.



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Reviewer chosen by: Dong-Mei Wang (Technical Editor)

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-07-24 09:52

Reviewer performed review: 2020-07-24 10:34

Review time: 1 Hour

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The manuscript is decidedly improved. The information has low priority but coming from a country underrepresented in the international references might be of interest.