

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS

June 5, 2014

Dear Editor,



Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 11130 review.doc).

Title: Efficacy and Safety of Herbal Medicines in Treating Gastric Ulcer: A Systematic Review:

Author: Huibin Man, Mao-Qiang Man, Weiping Bi

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 11130

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1. Format has been updated
2. Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer
 - (1). The title has been changed to “**Efficacy and Safety of Herbal Medicines in Treating Gastric Ulcer: A Systematic Review**”;
 - (2). Core tip is added;
 - (3). The conclusion has been revised as “Thus, herbal medicines alone or in combination with conventional drugs could be used as an alternative for treating certain gastric ulcer and preventing recurrence”.
 - (4). In the title of table 1, the misspelled “mechanisma” is corrected;
 - (5). The title of table 1 has been changed to “The Efficacy and safety of Herbal Medicines for Gastric Ulcer in Animal Models and Possible Mechanisms”;
 - (6). The title of table 2 has been changed to “The Efficacy and safety of Herbal Medicines for Gastric Ulcer in Human”;
 - (7). In the table 2, the cure rate and effective rate are defined.
 - (8). References are formatted according to WJG.
 - (9). “**Moreover, the cost of herbal preparation for gastric ulcer is only about 1/6th of Western medicine** ^[17].” is added to introduction;
 - (10). Figure 1 is added (Reviewer’s comments: *It is hard to understand information about mechanism in Table 1. Please make scheme summarized biological mechanisms of cure by Herbal medicines for treatment of gastric ulcer*);
 - (11). In safety section, the following sentences are added: “Although herb–drug interactions have raised safety concerns^[71,72], and some herbs can cause severe side effects^[73,74], herbal medicines used to treat gastric ulcer are generally safe in both animal models and humans.”; “Although these results indicate that herbal medicines are safe for treating gastric ulcer, special caution should be taken when using herbal medicines because of the potential adverse effects and herb–drug interactions”;

(12). In efficacy section, “Although all mixtures listed in Table 2 are effective for gastric ulcer, herbal medicines should be given according to each patient’s internal conditions as defined by the theory of Traditional Chinese Medicine in order to gain an optimal benefit.” is added;

(13). Reference 70 (original Ref 67) is appropriate because this paper reported the efficacy of the combination of herbal medicines and conventional therapy in treating gastric ulcer and duodenal ulcer (Reviewer’s comments: *Ref 67 is not appropriate*);

(13). In summary section, “Since only some anti-gastric ulcer herbal ingredients display antimicrobial property^[42,86], combination of herbal medicines and anti- *Helicobacter pylori* therapy could improve the outcome for patients with *Helicobacter pylori*-positive gastric ulcer” has been added in the revised manuscript.

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,

Mao-Qiang Man, MD
Department of Dermatology
University of California San Francisco
VAMC San Francisco, CA 94121
USA
Fax: 1-415-750-2106
E-mail: mqman@hotmail.com