

Feb 10, 2015

Dear Editor,

Thank you very much for your letter and advice. We have revised the manuscript, and would like to re-submit it for your consideration. We have addressed the comments raised by the reviewers, and the amendments are highlighted using the Track Changes function in the revised manuscript. Point by point responses to the reviewers' comments are listed below this letter. Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 16041-revised.doc).

**Title:** Effect of clinician-patient communication on compliance with flupentixol-melitracen in functional dyspepsia patients.

**Author:** Xiu-Juan Yan, Wen-Ting Li, Xin Chen, Er-Man Wang, Qing Liu, Hong-Yi Qiu, Zhi-Jun Cao\*, Sheng-Liang Chen

**Name of Journal:** *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 16041

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

1. Format has been updated according to editor's suggestions.
2. Abstract has been reorganized.
3. Revisions have been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer.

1) *"In the title and aims defined in the abstract it is said that different communicational strategies were used. On p.4 and p. 10 (conclusions) it is stated that the effect of appropriate clinician-patient communication was investigated. Actually there is no communication strategy described in the methods, the difference between groups was in the amount and kind of information that was provided to the patients. Therefore please define once again the aim of the work and use appropriate wording in writing the aim, title and conclusion."*

**Response:** This is a good suggestion. The expression "communicational strategies" we used in this manuscript was according to the information that was provided to the patients. We have rephrased the description in the revised manuscript.

2) *"In general, the results of the study could be guessed as there have been similar studies demonstrating the additional effect of providing more information to have better outcome. What is new in this study? Why the study was undertaken? What is its importance to the international*

readership? ”

**Response:** This is an important question. There have been studies exploring the effects of providing more information or communication on adherence in psychiatric patients. To our knowledge, however, no such studies on functional dyspepsia (FD) patients have been reported. As many FD patients hold the belief that their gastrointestinal (GI) symptoms originate in the GI tract and refuse to admit that they are experiencing depression or anxiety, they are resistant to psychoactive medication, which greatly hindered the drug efficacy. In this instance, we tried to find an efficient way to improve the adherence to antidepressant and anti-anxiety agents in FD patients. This may be of value in FD therapy.

3) *“Please discuss similarities/differences between compliance and adherence, both of these terms have been used in your manuscript.”*

**Response:** These two words were synonymous in this manuscript. We used both of them according to the other publications (*Am J Psychiatry* 2000; 157:338-43).

4) *“Why severe psychological symptoms was used as an exclusion criteria (p.4)?”*

**Response:** This is a good question. The main reason for a GI doctor to prescribe flupentixol-melitracen is to improve the FD symptoms. For patients with severe psychological symptoms, we advised them to visit psychiatric clinics for more professional mental treatments.

5) *“Why lower educational level was excluded ? ”*

**Response:** This is a good question. As the clinician-patient communication refers to the pathogenesis of FD and mechanism of drug treatment, some patients with lower educational level might find them difficult to understand. However, the FD patients with education level no lower than high school were > 90% in FD patients of our GI outpatient, thus the enrolled subjects might represent the majority of FD patients.

6) *“The possible effects of dietary advice and just assurance by doctors have been left out of attention- why? It is widely accepted that both of these aspects have a major influence on symptoms of functional dyspepsia. ”*

**Response:** This is a constructive advice. In this study we mainly focused on the communication about the reasons for prescribing psychoactive drugs. Health education on lifestyle was not mentioned to rule out other possible interferences.

7) *“Tables and figures should be self-explaining, table 2 should have a more exact title.”*

**Response:** This is a good advice. We have revised the title according to the reviewer's

suggestion.

3. References and typesetting were corrected.
4. Only one corresponding author was kept according to the editor's advice.
5. This manuscript has been edited and proofread by Elsevier Language Editing Services.

We hope that the revised version of the manuscript is now acceptable for publication in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,

Zhi-Jun Cao, MD

Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Ren Ji Hospital, School of Medicine, Shanghai Jiao  
Tong University, Shanghai Institute of Digestive Disease

caozj\_renji@163.com