

We have revised the manuscript No 27440 according to the reviewers' comments. The point-by-point responses to the referees are shown below. The revised points are marked in red and underlined.

Reviewer #1

The endoscopy indications and endoscopy screening criteria are mentioned. (page 5)

The position and properties of our institution in our community and a size of annual endoscopies are described. (page 11)

Reviewer #2

In Table 1, as the reviewer recommended, we have described "present/absent" instead of +/- . In addition, percentages of the total are added. The same replacement is done in table 3.

Table 2 is revised by adding percentages of each number of the total. The labels of the columns are explained by footnotes. The title of the table is revised to inform explicitly this fact. We think that the direct comparisons of each cell count are not a main topic of this paper.

In table 3, we have used "hazard ratio" instead of "odds ratio".

We have added explanation why hiatus hernia is an association with BE change but why other predictors did not. Since we do not have data of hiatus hernia length, the limitation in this regard is mentioned. (page 10)

We have added the recommended article of Desilets et al for supporting the fact of silent hiatus hernia. See reference 45.

As we do not have data concerning BMI of participants, we have described this fact as another limitation. Also, we have discussed an association between obesity and BE with references. See references 40 and 41. (page 10)

We use "multivariable" instead of "multivariate". See pages 7-10 and 22. The recommended article of Hidalgo et al is cited in the text. See reference 32.

We add sentences concerning limitations of non-generalizability to Caucasians. (page 11)

In addition, we have revised our manuscript according to the editor's suggestions appeared in the right side of the edited manuscript file (27440- edited(download)). The running title is provided on the title page. The core tip and audio core tip are also provided. Furthermore, as recommended by the editor, we have sent the figures 1 and 2 mounted in the Power point file (file name, 27440-Revised manuscript figures.ppt)