

Reviewer's code: 03408355

This paper entitled "Good adherence to Mediterranean diet can prevent gastrointestinal symptoms: a survey from Southern Italy" investigated the correlation of Mediterranean Diet with the incidence of functional gastrointestinal disorders. The following were some questions to be addressed:

1. **Was this a regional study? Were all the people in Campania investigated? Please add the details including the study period.** *As specified the study was performed in Campania and all people investigated live in this region. The study was performed between may 2011 and april 2012.*
2. **The part of Materials and Methods should be subtitled in order to make it clear.** *As requested i have performed such division*
3. **The reference for the Short Mediterranean Diet Questionnaire should be cited accordingly.** *I agree*
4. **How many variables were included in the univariate and multivariate analysis?** *The criterion for inclusion of a variable in this model was significance level less than 0.1 for its stepwise inclusion.*
5. **A multicenter prospective control clinical trial is highly suggested, which could provide more reliable evidence. In addition, the subjects may report inaccurate information by questionnaire.** *I agree with this point, this may be the most importance limitation for this study. This was a pilot study which will be followed by a multicenter prospective project.*
6. **Limitations of this study may also be discussed.** *Limitation of the article have been extended*
7. **There were some grammatical mistakes. Please check the whole text carefully. i.e. on page 9 a comma is usually added after the word "however".** *A native english speaker has performed the correction of the revised text*

Reviewer's code: 03261315

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The study -Good adherence to Mediterranean diet can prevent gastrointestinal symptoms: a survey from Southern Italy by Francesco Paolo Zito et al , evaluated the influence of Mediterranean Diet on functional dyspepsia , irritable bowel syndrome vs. controls. I have some questions regarding Materials and methods:

How were selected the subjects? *The selection of the population was performed in several ways as described in the text. Some were outpatients, other were voluntaries selected during a public event and younger people were selected from school taking part to health promoting educational events.*

Did the patients have some blood and stool tests before inclusion? *Only outpatients had performed such analyses*

Please, specify the modality of inclusion and exclusion regarding the relevant organic chronic disease. *The exclusion was performed on the basis of the information given during an accurate history taking*

The Diet Questionnaires were applied only one time in the periode of time or more? *Questionnaires were performed only one time*

The report was taking in the presence of nourse or doctor? *A doctor was always present*

The risk of inaccurate information is high.

Also , regarding the disscutions, the authors did not pointed out the limits of the study. As requested the limitation of the study have been extended