

**Manuscript Number :28838**

**Manuscript Title** :The Prevalence of Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease in a Country with a high occurrence of *Helicobacter Pylori*

Dear Editor

World Journal Of Gastroenterology

We appreciate for the valuable comments from reviewers for our manuscript entitled "The prevalence of gastroesophageal reflux disease in a country with a high occurrence of *Helicobacter pylori*". We believe our manuscript adds new concepts in this particular issue. Turkey has a unique profile for GERD with a very low Barrett's esophagus prevalence, very high *H. pylori* rate and different symptom profile. Countries with those characteristics are underestimated in the literature and studies mainly have been published from Western cultures with completely different profile. Studies from Far East countries show some similarities but still data is missing from Caucasian cultures.

For that reason, we believe our revised manuscript has a chance to convince the reviewers about its value.

Sincerely yours

Point-to point responses to reviewers:

I-Abstract:

1-Some indication of subjects were selected needs to be spelled out.

Some indication of subjects were selected was spelled out.

2-"Underprivileged" needs definition.

"Underprivileged" was defined.

II-Introduction:

1-"Mayo questionnaire" requires a bit more description about what it measures and how.

We have explained detail in the next paragraph.

III- Methods:

1-Clarify what "representatively selected" subjects means.

We have clarify in the next sentence

2-The phrase "17 cities" is repeated 3 times in sequence, state this once.

It has been corrected

2-How was a lottery used to select cities?

The cities was selected by Institute randomly and let us know.

3-Geog should be corrected to geographic.

It has been corrected

4- Should “dementia” as an exclusion be clarified to “and other medical issues?”

It has been clarified as request.

IV- Questionnaire:

References to explain the statistical analysis should be included.

1- Was there consideration to add any lower GI complaints such as constipation and diarrhea?

There was not in our Questionare form.

2-Was use of other antacids containing sodium bicarbonate included?

There was no alone but some include sodium bicarbonate.

3-Stress needs definition.

The stres was asked to the patients.

4- Were patients with known Helicobacter pylori excluded?

Yes, they were excluded.

5-Was active treatment and follow up by a medical person factored in?

No.

6-Was a multivariate analysis considered to sort out more important factors?

It has been clarified and it was added to the results

V-Results:

1-It is surprising that regurgitation, which is vomiting, was present in up to 19% of patients with GERD. H.P.:

Vomiting is not regurgitation and here we dont use vomiting in the meaning regurgitation.

2-How were patients randomized and determined to be “eligible” for testing?

Age and gender quota was executed in patients that was agree to make the test.

3- Listing of actual percentages of HP positivity in different areas would be of interest

It was given detail in Figure 3

VI- Discussion: should be truncated and shortened.

*The discussion was changed and shortened according to comments*