

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS manuscript NO: 29237

Title: Health-related quality of life in gastroesophageal reflux patients with noncardiac chest pain: emphasis on the role of psychological distress

Dear Reviewers:

I am very grateful to you for your hard work and valuable suggestions on our manuscript (NO: 29237). Based on your comments and suggestions, we have revised the manuscript point-by-point. The responses to the referees are shown below, and the revised points are marked in red in the text.

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS:

Reviewer #1: (Code: 00503881)

Please insert in the text some information on the Ethical Review Board approval as well as the informed consent (verbal).

Response: Thanks very much for your pertinent comments and precious suggestions. Accordingly, we made some corrections and highlighted red in the manuscript text.

Reviewer #2: (Code: 02445225)

The authors report a study on 358 consecutive patients with gastroesophageal reflux with and without chest pain. The data suggest that depression and anxiety is the dominant factor for quality of life while presence or absence of cardiac disease has smaller effects. I wonder whether the authors could use a multivariate analysis to bring all data together into one analysis.

Response: Thanks for your valuable suggestions. This is a very important issue. In this study, we aimed to investigate the different roles of anxiety and depression on health-related quality of life between GERD patients with cardiac and noncardiac chest pain. We concluded that high levels of anxiety and depression may be more

related to the poorer QoL in GERD patients with NCCP than those with CCP. Based on your suggestions, we further conducted a multivariate analysis and the results were shown in table 5. The results further confirmed our conclusions. The relevant part was highlighted in red in the text. Thanks a lot!