

Sep, 22, 2017

Dear Editor-in-Chief

**RE: WJG-35696 “Gender differences in ghrelin, nociception genes, psychological factors and quality of life in functional dyspepsia”**

Coauthored by Yoon Jin Choi, Young Soo Park, Nayoung Kim, Yong Sung Kim, Sun Min Ho Lee, Dong Ho Lee and HC Jung

Thank you very much for the positive comment! Minor changes have been highlighted in [Blue](#) color in the revised manuscript.

Sincerely,

Nayoung Kim, M.D.

## Reply to Reviewer's comments

### Major comments

*It is a good work, which contributes in the discussion of gender differences in functional dyspepsia, considering biological and psychosocial factors, I do not have comments of content, only have to fix the tables since they overlap the lines with the results and does not allow clarity in The ideas, besides my suggestion is that they broaden the discussion comparing with other populations of the world.*

**Answer:** Thank you for the generous comment! We agreed with the reviewer's opinion. Although the comparison of various aspects including prevalence, symptom subtype, dominant symptoms, natural course and QoL between males and females by different geographical areas or ethnicity could help to better understand the related pathophysiology of FD, studies that examine gender-related differences are very limited and provides inconclusive results. Some studies in Europe and Japan reported that female predominance in the prevalence of FD.

Following the reviewer's comment, authors described this current study status and the necessity of investigation in the discussion section. Moreover, authors fixed the tables.

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Although some studies in Europe and Japan reported that female predominance in the prevalence of FD [41-45], little gender analysis was conducted except for prevalence. The comparison of various aspects including prevalence, symptom subtype, dominant symptoms, natural course and QoL between males and females by different geographical areas or ethnicity could help to better understand the related pathophysiology of FD.

Nayoung Kim, M.D., Ph.D.