

09 November 2013

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 4452-edited.docx)

**Title:**

Efficacy of fermented milk and whey proteins in the helicobacter pylori, a review

**Author :** Aarti Sachdeva, Swapnil Rawat, Jitender Nagpal

**Name of Journal:** World Journal Gastroenterology

**ESPS Manuscript No:** 4452

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers

**1) Format has been updated**

**2) Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewers.**

**Response to reviewer's comments**

**Reviewer 1:** PPFM is used to combat against HP associated with ulcer and risk factor for gastric cancer. Its used combined with standard care, increases the chances of recovery and reduce adverse effects like previously reported by the same authors in a meta-analysis (Eur J Gastro and Hepathol, 2009). Herein authors added some indications regarding more specifically some components of the milk, however this novel point is not stressed enough in the present paper. I suggest to more added comments to this point in the abstract, introduction and discussion to highlight the novel information reported in this meta-analysis with respect to the previous one.

**Response:** The authors accept that the same authors published a metanalysis on fermented milk in EJGH in 2009. However, the current systematic review has significant differences

1. The current review incorporates some newly published studies
2. The current review collates the evidence for the entire group of fermented milk and related proteins and summarizes their current status in clinical practice
3. The metanalysis presented a mathematical average while the current systematic review grades the current levels of evidence including the earlier metanalysis while discussing the importance of the evidence.

The authors also accept the suggestion to highlight the novel information in this review and have modified the manuscript to incorporate additional comments in this regard.

**Reviewer 2:** This article is a well-designed and well-written review concerning effect of milk and milk proteins on Helicobacter Pylori eradication. This natural complementary therapy may decrease therapeutic and clinical problems involved in conventional pharmacotherapy of Helicobacter Pylori

infection. This review will be interesting for gastroenterologists and for all clinicians who encounter the questions of Helicobacter Pylori management in their patients. I therefore recommend this paper for publication in World Journal of Gastroenterology.

**Response :** We would like to thank the reviewer for the encouraging words

**Reviewer 3:** Interesting systematic review, with a clinically useful conclusion

**Response :** We would like to thank the reviewer for the encouraging words

**Reviewer 4:** No comments

**Response:** We would like to thank the reviewer for the encouraging review

**Reviewer 5:**

The information contained in this paper is valuable and is the result of an exhaustive study of the literature for which the authors are to be congratulated. In its present form, however, it would be more suitable as an academic dissertation or thesis than as a paper in a journal. The evidence is presented and analysed in the form of long Tables, which would not be reproducible in the context of a journal. The conclusions are of interest and if the authors could summarise them in a short report I think that then they would be suitable for consideration for publication.

**Response:** The authors accept that the tables are long and exhaustive. However, the information provided forms the basis of the conclusions drawn, as is the case with all systematic reviews. Selective or complete deletion of the information provided in the tables defeats the purpose of the exercise which is to review the literature in a systematic way. Given the uncompromising nature of the methodology adopted the authors (for review and writing; in accordance with PRISMA guidelines) would like to express their inability to reduce the tables in any way. Since some topics may produce very large tables most journals publish such tables as a cross-reference in an online only versions. It is therefore our humble request that the reviewer reconsider the paper with the possibility of online only publication (HTML format) of the tables.

**Reviewer 6**

I think that authors check 68 documents well. However, it is distributed between 29 in a table when I read an article at A4 size. It is hard to read a table, and there is much quantity of the table, too. There are few commentaries of the text by just that much. I think that the author needs improvement as appearance of the articles.

**Response:**

The authors accept the concern expressed by the reviewer and would repeat the same suggestion given in response to reviewer 6. Since, some topics may produce very large tables most journals publish such tables as a cross-reference in an online only versions. It is therefore our humble request that the reviewer reconsider the paper with the possibility of online only publication (HTML format) of the tables.

**Reviewer7**

The manuscript (4452) entitled: "EFFICACY OF FERMENTED MILK AND WHEY PROTEINS IN HELICOBACTER PYLORI ERADICATION, A REVIEW" is the result of thorough analysis and grading of the existing reports in the field. However, the text needs to be simplified in order to benefit a broader range of readers. It is, therefore, requested that long complicated sentences be split into short simple sentences, clearly explaining the information provided in the tables. The conclusion should summarize the findings according to the grading and rating of the reports.

**Response:**

The language of the text has been modified in the revised version of the manuscript to make it simpler and easier to understand as suggested. The conclusion section now includes the grading and level of evidence where possible).

**3) References and typesetting were corrected**

Sincerely Yours,

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