

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 47391

**Title:** Botulinum toxin injections after surgery for Hirschsprung disease: Systematic review and meta-analysis

**Reviewer's code:** 03338286

**Reviewer's country:** China

**Science editor:** Jia-Ping Yan

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2019-03-14 11:04

**Reviewer performed review:** 2019-03-18 07:20

**Review time:** 3 Days and 20 Hours

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

### SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is a meta-analysis evaluating the usefulness of Botulinum toxin injection as a treatment for bowel dysfunction, mainly obstructive symptoms and enterocolitis following surgery for Hirschsprung's disease. The results suggested that Botulinum



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toxin injections are effective for temporary relief of obstructive symptoms especially in the early post-op period. Overall, the manuscript was well written and the study design was proper. It has included all the essential components of a meta-analysis. Although the findings were expected from previous publications and daily clinical practice, this paper has provided the highest level of evidence. Just a few minor comments for the authors to consider 1. Perhaps, the title could be changed to include what specific bowel dysfunction that they are looking for. 2. Was there any difference noticed between short-and long-segment diseases 3. What would be the underlying postulation that enterocolitis could not be improved?

#### INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

##### *Google Search:*

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

##### *BPG Search:*

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 47391

**Title:** Botulinum toxin injections after surgery for Hirschsprung disease: Systematic review and meta-analysis

**Reviewer's code:** 02549885

**Reviewer's country:** China

**Science editor:** Jia-Ping Yan

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2019-03-25 08:42

**Reviewer performed review:** 2019-04-05 09:00

**Review time:** 11 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
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		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

### SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Authors conducted a meta-analysis on BT injections treatment for obstructive symptoms in HD patients after corrective surgery, and the study indicates that BT injections are effective in treating obstructive symptoms and were associated with mild and temporary

adverse effects. This study is interesting and well conducted, with data analyzing and processing effectively; it is a worthy finding for the treatment of obstructive symptoms after HD surgery. However, there are some problems need to be clearly: 1. As the author described in the introduction, “causes of obstructive symptoms includes: 1) mechanical obstruction, such as anastomotic stricture or adhesions, 2) residual aganglionosis, 3) stool-holding behaviour, 4) general motility disorders of the bowel and 5) anal outlet obstruction”, and as we all known that BT injections cannot be effective to the obstructive symptom caused by residual aganglionosis or bowel motility disorders; it would be more convincing if the author analyzed separately the reason caused obstructive symptoms in this paper. 2. This systematic review and meta-analysis searched the Pubmed, Embase and the Cochrane Library, using entry terms of Hirschsprung disease and Botulinum toxin injections; it would be more comprehensive if the author try more entry terms and include the Web of Science database.

#### INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

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- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☒ No

##### *BPG Search:*

- ☐ The same title
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- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☒ No