

Dear editor,

We are very glad to hear that you are interested in publishing our article in World Journal of Clinical Cases.

Thank you for the suggestions from the reviewer. We are grateful to the reviewer for the time and effort spending on reviewing our manuscript. The constructive comments and suggestions have helped us to largely improve the manuscript. Please find the revised manuscript in the attachment. We have modified the paper according to the requirements of the reviewer. A point-by-point response to the reviewer has been submitted online and is also provided at the end of this letter.

We are looking forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Chao-Wu Chen,
Endoscopy Center, Department of Gastroenterology,
Clinical Medical College, Yangzhou University,
Yangzhou 225009, Jiangsu Province, China
Email:sbyy_ccw@163.com

POINT-BY-POINT RESPONSE

Comments for the author:

1. Please explain to the reader show Coca Cola dissolves bezoars.

AUTHORS REPLY:

Thank you for your reminding. The mechanism of Coca-Cola dissolution is not thoroughly explained. Coca-Cola has an acidity of PH 2.6, which resembles gastric acid, may be important in digesting fiber. In addition, NaHCO_3 mucolytic effect and the penetration of CO_2 bubbles are also the important factors in the dissolving mechanism. we have explained it in the discussion section.

2. Reference 5 reviews 24 papers and 46 patients treated with Coca Cola for bezoars. Fifty percent of patients were successfully treated with Coke alone, 4 required surgery, and the others required a combination of Coke and endoscopic extraction. After 3 liters of cola lavage or ingestion, complete dissolution of bezoars was only 23.5%. The manuscript would be improved if the Discussion section was expanded. For instance, there are additional reports of intestinal obstruction occurring by a persimmon phytobezoar after dissolution therapy with Coke and data showing that persimmons phytobezoars dissolve poorly with Coke.

AUTHORS REPLY:

We appreciate your recommendation. Ladas et al reviewed 46 patients from 24 papers and found that 91% of patients were successfully treated with Coca-Cola, either alone or conjunction with endoscopic extraction. However, the CO_2 bubbles could increase the pressure in the stomach temporarily, which may help to push the shrunken bezoar through the pylorus and further lead to gastric outlet obstruction or small intestinal obstruction. Diospyrobezoar is a type of phytobezoar that caused by persimmons, which is considered more difficult to dissolve completely by only drinking Coca-Cola compared with other types of phytobezoars because of their hard consistency. We have expanded the discussion section according to your suggestion.

3. Consider adding additional references: a. Lu et al. Gastric Outlet Obstruction—An

Unexpected Complication during Coca-Cola Therapy for a Gastric Bezoar: A Case Report and Literature Review. Intern Med. 2016;55(9):1085-9.

doi:10.2169/internalmedicine.55.5567. Epub 2016 May 1. PMID: 27150859. b. Ha et al.

Acute intestinal obstruction caused by a persimmon phytobezoar after dissolution therapy with Coca-Cola. Korean J Intern Med. 2007 Dec;22(4):300-3. doi: 10.3904/kjim.2007.22.4.300. PMID: 18309693; PMCID: PMC2687663.

AUTHORS REPLY:

Thank you for your suggestion. We have already added the references that you mentioned according to your suggestion.

4. The Figures would be improved with the addition of arrows.

AUTHORS REPLY:

Thank you for your reminding. We have added the arrows of figures.

5. I think the authors mean “inflammation” of the pancreas; not “infiltration.”

AUTHORS REPLY:

Thank you for your suggestion. We have modified the description of CT, and changed “infiltration” into “inflammation” in this article.

Finally, we appreciate very much for the editors in editing our manuscript and the reviewer for his valuable suggestions and comments.