

ANSWERING REVIEWERS



Oct 24, 2013

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 6131-review.doc).

Title: Helicobacter pylori eradication for preventing gastric cancer

Author: Lu Bin, Li Meng

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 6131

First of all, we thank both reviewers and editor for their positive and constructive comments and suggestions. We have revised the manuscript, according to the comments and suggestions, and responded, point by point to, the comments as listed below. And the amendments had been highlighted in blue in the revised manuscript:

1 Format has been updated

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

Replies to Reviewer #1:

The authors address a very interesting issue focusing on the main critical question. The paper is well written, the references are appropriately reported. The study contains many valuable clinical messages useful for the readers.

Answer: Thank you so much for your affirmation. This is a great recognition of our manuscript.

Replies to Reviewer #2:

The authors present a manuscript analyzing the influence of helicobacter pyloris eradication for preventing gastric cancer. The manuscript is well written, excellent structured and discusses most of the important studies.

1、What do the authors think why some studies demonstrate an influence of H.P.-Eradication in preventing gastric cancer and some not?

Answer: We thank the reviewer to raise this important issue. And as discussed in the manuscript. Some results of previous studies have been inconclusive partly due to the insufficient number of participants, relatively short follow-up period or poor quality of study design, and partly due to the degree and extent of preneoplastic changes at the time of eradication.

2. The influence of a H.P. Re-infection after eradication is not discussed in the manuscript. Have you found studies analyzing this?

Answer: The topic on Hp re-infection after eradication is not the subject of our review. So we have not focus on Hp re-infection. The study show the re-infection/recrudescence rate of 1% per person-year after Hp eradication.(Gut 2013;62:676–682.) . The aim of our review is whether Hp eradication could prevent gastric cancer.

3. Do relatives like husbands/wives/children also have to be eradicated or examined regarding a H.P. infection to reach a successfull eradication? This important topic should be added to the manuscript.

Answer: We have not found the studies about this topic. And also it is not the topic of our review.

Replies to Reviewer #3:

1. The authors do not perform a systematic review.

Answer: Thank you so much for this critical comment, our review try to illuminate the real effect of H. pylori eradication for gastric cancer prevention by analyzing relatively high-quality studies, some points of view had been made according to the relationship between H.pylori eradication and gastric cancer/precancerous lesions/metachronous gastric cancer, as well as the assessment of cost-effective effect of this strategy in the prevention of gastric cancer. We completely agree that there must be some flaws in the structure of this manuscript. We sincerely hope the reviewer could provide some suggestions for further revise.

2. The several analyses that are mentioned in the manuscript are randomized controlled trials, retrospective analyses as well as meta-analyses so that the conclusions made are not safe.

Answer: Regrettably, due to the limited research and poor quality of study design existed in this research field, the studies we provide in our manuscript are not all randomized controlled trials,

however, we try to offer relatively high-quality studies such as the studies with large size of participants or long follow-up period which published in medical journals with high impact factor. And we believe that these trials may also provide some important evidences.

3. The questions raised by the authors include a much extended field which is not covered by the review.

Answer: We have paid attention to this issue and we sincerely hope the reviewer could provide some suggestions for further revise.

4. The manuscript needs a thorough linguistic improvement.

Answer: Thank you so much for this suggestion the reviewer mentioned, we have accepted the suggestion and some modification has been made in the manuscript.

Thank you again for these positive and constructive comments.

Sincerely yours,

Lu Bin, MD

Gastroenterology, First Affiliated Hospital of Zhejiang Chinese Medical University

Hangzhou 310006, P R China

Fax: +86 571 8707 7785

E-mail: lvbin@medmail.com.cn.