

December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

Dear Dr Ma and reviewers,

We thank you for your insightful comments about our manuscript and its consideration for publication in World Journal of Gastroenterology.

We hereby present a point-by-point reply to the questions and comments raised by you and the reviewers.

Reviewer #1:

1. There is "NRCD" used in the first line as an abbreviation, but that should be explained when is used the first time.

*Thank you for this observation, we added "Non-responsive celiac disease" first in the abstract*

2. The aim could be rewritten to be similar to that presented in the manuscript.

*Thank you, we rewrote the aim in the abstract to be the same as in the manuscript*

3. The methods should be rewritten... mainly in the part with "Medical records..." as there are repeated words.

*Thank you for this comment, we modified the Methods section*

4. The paper describes in detail the methods, presenting the data extracted from the medical records, the scale for the adherence to the GFD assessment (some typos – first capital letter in Excellent and Good but not in fair, poor, noncompliant).

*Thank you for this observation, we harmonized the style in that section.*

5. There are some typos to be corrected, as lack of "was" in "Gluten exposure the most common cause" (page 9).

*We corrected that sentence.*

6. Still, I would keep in the discussions only the most important aspects, as at the end there is a presentation of other causes of NRCD, repeated from the results and Figure 2.

*Thank you for this comment, we agree and the paragraph repeating the etiologies of NRCD can be removed from the discussion.*

7. This figure (2) repeat the data presented in the text, without any new information.

*You are right, we removed the enumeration in the text to refer to Figure 2.*

8. The last paragraph before the conclusion should be entitled Strengths and limitations as the authors emphasize these aspects.

*Thank you for the suggestion, we made the changes.*

Reviewer #2:

Probably just one older study can be cited in discussion (Makovicky et al., 2013., Mol. Med. Rep., Correlation between antibodies and histology in celiac disease: incidence of celiac disease is higher than expected in the pediatric population), which show relationships between tG and histology.

*Thank you for the suggestion. We added a comment in the discussion about how we could have missed some subjects with seronegative celiac disease.*

**Science editor:**

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5 Issues raised:

- (1) I found the authors did not provide the approved grant application form(s). Please upload the approved grant application form(s) or funding agency copy of any approval document(s);

*We have attached the approval document to the re-submission.*

- (2) I found the authors did not provide the original figures. Please provide the original figure documents. Please prepare and arrange the figures using PowerPoint to ensure that all graphs or arrows or text portions can be reprocessed by the editor;

*We have attached the figures in a PPT format as well as coreldraw.*

- (3) I found the authors did not add the PMID and DOI in the reference list. Please provide the PubMed numbers and DOI citation numbers to the reference list and list all authors of the references. Please revise throughout;

*We updated the reference list to add the PMID and DOI*

- (4) I found the authors did not write the "article highlight" section. Please write the "article highlights" section at the end of the main text;

*We added article highlights to the manuscript.*

- (5) Please don't include any \*, #, †, §, ‡, ¥, @....in your manuscript; Please use superscript numbers for illustration.

*We have changed the annotations to superscript numbers in the tables*