

August 7, 2021

Dear Reviewers,

Thank you kindly for the review of our submitted manuscript and timely comments. Specific comments asked us to, 'describe how to prevent the development of pancreatitis after the diagnosis of hereditary pancreatitis'.

Patients with hereditary pancreatitis (HP) possess genetic variants that predisposes to repeated attacks of acute pancreatitis (AP), and in many instances, eventual progression to chronic pancreatitis (CP). Lifestyle modifications such as maintaining a healthy weight and avoidance of alcohol and tobacco use can slow pancreatic disease progression in adults. To this date, such measures have not been validated in the pediatric setting but expert pediatric consensus that has been recently published, recommends maintaining a balanced, healthy diet and avoidance of the use of tobacco and alcohol given its negative short and long-term effects on pancreatic health.

Unfortunately, aside from these lifestyle modifications, there remain no novel therapeutic agents available for preventing repeated episodes of AP and the eventual progression to CP in patients with HP. In this regard, present treatment strategies are focused on managing the natural history of HP as opposed to preventing or delaying disease progression. Further research is warranted to better define 'optimal' preventative management in this population.

We have updated the manuscript (Primary heading- Management, Sub-heading- Preventative Measures) to address this concern. Given the significance of this comment, a relevant statement has been added to the 'Core-tip'. Two new references have been included (48, 49) to cite the benefit of lifestyle modifications and the reference list has been updated accordingly.

Respectfully,

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