

January 18, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 7937-review.doc).

Title: *HELICOBACTER PYLORI* ERADICATION IN PATIENTS WITH CHRONIC IMMUNE THROMBOCYTOPENIC PURPURA.

Author: Ravinder Naik Noonavath, C.P Lakshmi, T.K Dutta, Vikram Kate

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 7937

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format has been updated

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

Reviewer #1: 00227386

***On page 11 the last sentence in the Discussion would be better incorporated in the Results section in the paragraph relating to Table 5 on page 8.**

It has been done (page 8- 2nd paragraph).

***For clarification, in the sentence " successful H pylori eradicated (13/3) and H pylori negative patients (5/5/9)" it should read "(13/3/0) and (5/5/9) respectively".**

It has been changed(page 8- 2nd paragraph) .

***Throughout the text there are places where the Definite article "the" and the indefinite article "a" have been omitted, and the verb "was" has been used instead of "were" and vice versa.**

It has been done.

Reviewer #2: 00061686

***The Reviewer encourages the authors for developing a strategy to give new information, improving the knowledge on the mechanism of the observed effect.**

Although reports on H.pylori eradication in patients with cITP have been reported in the past, this is the first report from India to the best of our knowledge.

As reported in the text (page-4, 2nd paragraph-2nd line) since geographic variation in platelet response following eradication of H. pylori can occur, this study has been done to document the response in Indian patients. The mechanism of observed effect has already described in the text (page-4, paragraph 2nd- 4th line).

***In addition, the study included a too small number of patients.**

The limited number of patients included and that has been mentioned as a limitation of the study (page-10 last paragraph).

Reviewer #3: 00007855

***Methods: statistical tests not described P7.**

Statistical analysis has been included in the page 6.

***Paragraph 4, last sentence: 'The mean baseline platelet count between groups was similar.' Is redundant, already stated in the sentence before paragraph 5**

The redundant sentence has been removed.

***The UGIE findings in patients with cITP' - change to: As regards UGIE findings..**

It has been done.

***Table V – complete and partial responses are not defined**

The definition of complete response, partial response and no response has been defined in the page 8- 3rd paragraph.

***One possibility is that ITP patients with and without H pylori infection are different i.e. perhaps those with H pylori are more prone to spontaneous remission. Perhaps the H pylori eradication is not the issue. This possibility should be mentioned. The conclusion hinges on one single comparison between the two groups at 6 months. The authors should be able to give data at other time points, if H pylori infection really has a beneficial effect in their patients. Spontaneous fluctuations of the counts are possible, as shown in the control group at 6 weeks and 3 months The authors should speculate on the mechanisms as to how H pylori treatment affects platelet counts.**

We disagree with the reviewer in this aspect. It was found that there was an increased in the platelet count compared to the baseline level following therapy in both the groups, however, the response in the control group following conventional therapy was transient and the platelet count return back to the baseline level, whereas in the H.pylori eradication group there was sustained increase in the platelet counts. The mechanisms as to how H. pylori treatment effect platelet counts have already been described in the text (page-4, paragraph 2nd- 4th line).

3 References and type setting were corrected

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,

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