

## ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastrointestinal Pathophysiology

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 17849

**Title:** Energetic etiologies of acute pancreatitis - a report of five cases

**Reviewer's code:** 02548034

**Reviewer's country:** Taiwan

**Science editor:** Xue-Mei Gong

**Date sent for review:** 2015-03-28 19:32

**Date reviewed:** 2015-07-23 15:31

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Summary The authors reported five cases of acute pancreatitis in four patients having a strong temporal association with exposure to nerve stimulators and energy drinks, and hypothesized that these exposures may play a role in the etiology of pancreatitis. The report is of interest and may be of value, but has several limitations. Some comments are provided as follows. Specific Comments 1. The authors stated that the proportion of idiopathic acute pancreatitis is increasing, and cited two articles that are however either irrelevant or unsupportive. With the advent of new or aggressive diagnostic approach to acute pancreatitis, the proportion of unknown etiology should be decreasing. (references: Al-Haddad M, Wallace MB. Diagnostic approach to patients with acute idiopathic and recurrent pancreatitis, what should be done? World J Gastroenterol. 2008;14(7):1007-10. Thevenot A, Bournet B, Otal P, Canevet G, Moreau J, Buscail L. Endoscopic ultrasound and magnetic resonance cholangiopancreatography in patients with idiopathic acute pancreatitis. Dig Dis Sci. 2013;58(8):2361-8.) 2. Two cases in the report have history of "suspected biliary pancreatitis" and "a remote history of alcoholic pancreatitis". I wonder if these two cases can be categorized as idiopathic although the risk of recurrence is reduced after cholecystectomy and abstinence of alcohol.



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(references: Lee SP, Nicholls JF, Park HZ. Biliary sludge as a cause of acute pancreatitis. *N Engl J Med*. 1992;326(9):589-93. Nordback I, Pelli H, Lappalainen-Lehto R, Järvinen S, Røtø S, Sand J. The recurrence of acute alcohol-associated pancreatitis can be reduced: a randomized controlled trial. *Gastroenterology*. 2009 Mar;136(3):848-55.) 3. The second case appears to have mild acute pancreatitis associated with an implanted electrical nerve stimulator device for chronic back pain due to a fall. However, it is hard to say “idiopathic” without further examinations to exclude “occult causes” of pancreatitis. (see references in comment 1) 4. The third case has severe acute pancreatitis associated with a TENS device for back pain during a 10-hour car trip. She received necrosectomy for severe, extensive, necrotizing pancreatitis and disconnected-duct syndrome. How the TENS was used by the patient is not reported. The pathology as well as other exams for possible cause of the attack is also not reported. A temporal association is not sufficient for causality although the proposed neurogenic mechanism is interesting.

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CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> [ Y] Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> [ Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> [ Y] Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input type="checkbox"/> [ Y] No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input type="checkbox"/> [ Y] No	

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is a very interesting manuscript from the clinical point of view. Both hypothesis are interesting. Etiology of TENS is probably similar with ESWL induced pancreatitis. I wonder if authors have some experiences with "fat burners" and pancreatitis too?

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CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
		BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Interesting and thorny topic related to the study of new etiologies in acute pancreatitis. The onset of acute pancreatitis in temporal relation to the use of TENS and energy drinks assumption is documented in sporadic cases reported by the author. Could be useful in the future to assess further cases in a multicenter setting, trying to clear more confounding factors. Only such minor questions: -anatomical and infective possible causes were routinely ruled out? -combined alcol + energy drink assumption was clearly certified?