

Dear Editors,

thank you very much for reviewing our paper NO 35735 - Noncoding RNAs as drivers of the phenotypic plasticity of oesophageal mucosa.

We are sending you the revised version of our manuscript with a point-by-point response to the comments of the Reviewers (see below). We hope that you will consider favorably our work and remain at your complete disposal, should any further improvement or clarifications be necessary.

Kind regards,

Dr. Edoardo Savarino

#### **Reviewer 1:**

We thank this reviewer for his/her positive opinion on our paper.

C1. I am very interested the advantages of the analysis of ncRNAs compared with other secondary prevention strategies.

R1. Thank you for your comment. We modified the conclusions in order to clarify this point

C2. Are there any relevant clinical trials carried out? Whether the analysis of ncRNAs is feasible and convenient to perform in practice?

R2. Thank you for your comment. We modified the conclusions in order to clarify this point

C3. The quality of English needs to be improved

R3. The manuscript was edited for proper English language, grammar, punctuation, spelling, and overall style by one or more of the highly qualified native English speaking editors at American Journal Experts.

#### **Reviewer 2**

We thank this reviewer for his/her positive opinion on our paper.

C1. Apart from miRNA up- or down- regulation are there any data on the exact molecular mechanisms that may drive carcinogenesis in the pre-cancerous oesophageal mucosa?

R1. Thank you for your comment. We modified the last sentence of the introduction section, as suggested.

C2. The term in vitro stability is not clear, please elaborate more on that.

R2. Thank you for your comment. We revised the sentence, accordingly

C3. From the data that are presented in this article it is not clear how research on miRNA molecules can specifically affect the therapeutic approaches and decision making in BM patients.

R3. Thank you for your comment. We modified the conclusions in order to clarify this point.