

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS



March 30, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format.

Title: Barrett's oesophagus – evidence from the current meta-analyses

Author: Piers Gatenby, Yuen Soon

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Pathophysiology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 8661

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

Reviewer 02823327:

Update of a topic of great interest. Brief comments: 1) Barrett's relationship with smoking is unclear in the wording of the text. 2) The importance or utility of reflux control has a short analysis. 3) Reference (2) and (5) are the same. 4) Reference (8) is posterior to April 25th 2013.

1. This has been addressed in the results section.
2. This has been expanded in the results and discussion sections.
3. I apologise for this error, which has been corrected.
4. The search encompassed all publications in electronic or printed form during the search dates. This has been clarified in the methods section.

Reviewer 00036593

The article is well-written. No mention is made of the difficulty in differentiating inflammatory atypia and low-grade dysplasia and whether patients should be on anti-reflux treatment for 6 - 12 months before sampling them again. Should surveillance programmes include treatment with PPI as pre-requisite?

These first two points have been added to the discussion section. There are no data from meta-analyses on antireflux treatment as a pre-requisite for entry into surveillance.

Reviewer 02445111

This is an interesting manuscript where the author's performed a meta-analysis of patients with Barrett's oesophagus. Although the number of studies analyzed is relatively small, the data presented are reasonable and should provide useful information for clinicians in the treatment of patients who present with Barrett's oesophagus. Therefore, I recommend publication of this manuscript. Note that there are some typographical errors present in this manuscript that should be corrected prior to publication.

This has been addressed. Thank-you.

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

Sincerely yours,

Piers Gatenby
Yuen Soon