

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 5414-review.doc).

Title: Clinical peer review in the United States: History, legal development and subsequent abuse

Author: Dinesh Vyas, Ahmed E. Hozain

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 5414

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

(1) i) modify title so that it is clear authors are writing about the history, legal development and subsequent abuse of the requirement for medical doctors to review each others' clinical practice in the United States. ii) delete reference to forthcoming articles in the first line of abstract, since there is no elaboration on such a series in body of the article.

Changes incorporated

(2) The background sections need to be revised to clarify the issues for readers who are not familiar with the issue. One problem is that the nature of peer review needs further clarification.

Changes incorporated

(3) clarify the relationship between the description of the Meyer and Bender cases and the "sham" peer review.

Changes incorporated

3 References and typesetting were corrected

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

Sincerely yours,

Dinesh Vyas