



## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** *World Journal of Psychiatry*

**Manuscript NO:** 70353

**Title:** Studying the relationship between clinical features and mental health among late-onset myasthenia gravis patients

**Provenance and peer review:** Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 05824731

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Indonesia

**Author's Country/Territory:** China

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-08-01

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-08-31 12:09

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-09-16 05:50

**Review time:** 15 Days and 17 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: [ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] Anonymous [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Yes [ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] No
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### SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

CRITERIA CHECKLIST FOR NEW MANUSCRIPT PEER-REVIEW

1. Title. Does the title reflect the main subject/hypothesis of the manuscript? Yes, the title reflects the main subject/hypothesis of the manuscript.

2. Abstract. Does the abstract summarize and reflect the work described in the manuscript? Yes, the abstract summarizes and reflects the work described in the manuscript.

3. Key words. Do the key words reflect the focus of the manuscript? Yes, the key words reflect the focus of the manuscript.

4. Background. Does the manuscript adequately describe the background, present status and significance of the study? Yes, the manuscript adequately describe the background, present status and significance of the study.

5. Methods. Does the manuscript describe methods (e.g., experiments, data analysis, surveys, and clinical trials, etc.) in adequate detail? Yes, the manuscript describe methods in adequate detail.

6. Results. Are the research objectives achieved by the experiments used in this study? Yes, the research objectives achieved by the experiments. What are the contributions that the study has made for research progress in this field? The study found that late-onset MG patients were more prone to dyspnea, had higher levels of serum anti-acetylcholine receptor antibodies, and had higher total scores on the MG Quality of Life 15 (QOL-15), HAM-D, and HAM-A questionnaires, than early-onset MG patients. The study revealed that QOL-15 score cut-off of 14.5 could be a good indicator for poor mental health in need of attention amongst late-onset MG patients.

7. Discussion. Does the manuscript interpret the findings adequately and appropriately, highlighting the key points concisely, clearly and logically? Yes, the manuscript interpret the findings adequately and appropriately, highlighting the key points concisely, clearly and logically. Are the



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findings and their applicability/relevance to the literature stated in a clear and definite manner? Yes, the findings and their applicability/relevance to the literature stated in a clear and definite manner. Is the discussion accurate and does it discuss the paper's scientific significance and/or relevance to clinical practice sufficiently? Yes, the discussion is accurate. 8. Illustrations and tables. Are the figures, diagrams and tables sufficient, good quality and appropriately illustrative of the paper contents? Yes the figures, diagrams and tables are sufficient, good quality and appropriately illustrative of the paper contents. Do figures require labeling with arrows, asterisks etc., better legends? Yes, the figures require labeling with arrows, asterisks etc. 9. Biostatistics. Does the manuscript meet the requirements of biostatistics? Yes, the manuscript meet the requirements of biostatistics, because this research is a quantitative research. 10 Units. Does the manuscript meet the requirements of use of SI units? Yes, the manuscript meet the requirements of use of SI units. 11. References. Does the manuscript cite appropriately the latest, important and authoritative references in the introduction and discussion sections? No, most of the references are above the last 5 years. Does the author self-cite, omit, incorrectly cite and/or over-cite references? Yes, the author self-cite. 12. Quality of manuscript organization and presentation. Is the manuscript well, concisely and coherently organized and presented? Yes, the manuscript well, concisely and coherently organized and presented. Is the style, language and grammar accurate and appropriate? Yes, the style, language and grammar accurate and appropriate. 13. Research methods and reporting. Authors should have prepared their manuscripts according to manuscript type and the appropriate categories, as follows: (1) CARE Checklist (2013) - Case report; (2) CONSORT 2010 Statement - Clinical Trials study, Prospective study, Randomized Controlled trial, Randomized Clinical trial; (3) PRISMA 2009 Checklist - Evidence-Based Medicine, Systematic review, Meta-Analysis; (4) STROBE Statement - Case Control study, Observational study, Retrospective Cohort



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study; and (5) The ARRIVE Guidelines - Basic study. Did the author prepare the manuscript according to the appropriate research methods and reporting? Yes, the author prepare the manuscript according to the appropriate research methods and reporting. 14. Ethics statements. For all manuscripts involving human studies and/or animal experiments, author(s) must submit the related formal ethics documents that were reviewed and approved by their local ethical review committee.mDid the manuscript meet the requirements of ethics? No, the manuscript didn't meet the requirements of ethics.



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**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 05470508

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MA, MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Taiwan

**Author's Country/Territory:** China

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**Reviewer chosen by:** Xin Liu (Online Science Editor)

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-11-22 14:42

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-11-23 16:26

**Review time:** 1 Day and 1 Hour

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No



<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: [ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] Anonymous [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Yes [ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] No
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### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

The authors explored the relationship between clinical features and mental health among patients with late-onset myasthenia gravis. The topic of this study is relevant. However, some methodological issues mitigated the potential impact of the present study, as detailed below. In the core tip, the authors mentioned that “Psychopathological disorders have often been reported in MG patients. In this study, we found that late-onset MG was correlated with more severe impairments to mental state.” What are psychopathological disorders that authors intended to describe? These two sentences are poorly written. Please revise the core tip. Please standardize the wording in the manuscript, for example, mental disorders, mental illness, psychopathological disorders. Also, the psychiatry terminology that used in the manuscript are inaccurate, for example, psychopathological disorders, psychiatric abnormalities, mental therapies. It would be helpful if the authors could explain a little bit more in detail what the literature suggests concerning protective factors and risk factors for developing mental disorders in persons with myasthenia gravis. The significance of differentiating early-onset and late-onset myasthenia gravis in this study should be described in the Introduction. Why are the authors only seeking to identify this correlation in the group of late-onset patients as the authors mentioned in the last sentence of the Introduction? For eligibility for the study, the authors mentioned that patients were excluded if had incomplete data. Please clarify why and what data will drive to this exclusion. The age restriction of this study is above 16 years old. What is the intention of the authors to have an age restriction for inclusion criteria and why the age is set at 16? In the methodology section, please describe more details about each



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measure that was applied in this study. The general characteristics of the questionnaires should be presented, such as the number of items, sub-scales (if any), how the items are measured (Type Likert scale), Reliability (i.e. Cronbach's alpha). Please cite the Chinese version right after the original version of the questionnaires. Please reconsider the arrangement of paragraphs of the "Groups" and "Clinical data and scales" sections. The information of the measures in the "Groups" section, i.e., cutoff points of questionnaires, should be merged into the "Clinical data and scales" section. The authors used the median instead of the means for all the measures in the study to test their hypothesis. Did the authors detect severe skewness in their data? The authors stated that male patients may have coped better with their openness and resulted in less severe depression and anxiety than female patients. This explanation is quite a stigma. The prevalence of depression and anxiety is higher among females than males. There are many biological, psychological, and social factors that contributed to this difference, particularly genetic loading. Also, late-onset patients had higher BMI than early-onset. The correlation between obesity and depression is widely described. Please consider revising this paragraph. Any contribution of the serum anti-AChR antibodies to depression and anxiety? The authors mentioned that the sampling method restricted the conclusion of this study and healthy control is needed for future study. Why the healthy controls are needed if the authors only aimed to assess the correlation of clinical features and mental health among patients with late-onset myasthenia gravis? What is the limitation of the sampling method? "Our research showed that female patients with late-onset MG were more susceptible to mental health issues than their male counterparts" This statement is sweeping. In the attachment file, the name of the participants is not masked or blinded in the informed consent form. The authors should be more careful when providing this document. What is the significance of this study? As already known, the more severe impairment in daily function, regardless of the



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disease type, the more depressed or anxious a person will be. The novelty of this study is questionable.



## RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

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**Reviewer's code:** 05470508

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MA, MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Taiwan

**Author's Country/Territory:** China

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-08-01

**Reviewer chosen by:** Han Zhang (Online Science Editor)

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-01-22 14:31

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**Review time:** 1 Hour

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Peer-reviewer</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous



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statements

Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

#### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

My comments and questions are adequately addressed.