

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy

Manuscript NO: 58430

Title: Assessing the yield and safety of endoscopy in acute graft-vs-host disease after hematopoietic stem cell transplant

Reviewer's code: 00039316

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: FEBG, MD, PhD

Professional title: Associate Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Greece

Author's Country/Territory: United States

Manuscript submission date: 2020-07-22

Reviewer chosen by: Jia-Ping Yan

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-07-24 06:45

Reviewer performed review: 2020-07-24 07:42

Review time: 1 Hour

Scientific quality	<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 Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<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
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	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 retrospective case series entitled "Assessing the yield and safety of endoscopy in acute GVHD after HSCT" assessed the efficacy of gastroscopy and flexible sigmoidoscopy to confirm GVHD in patients who underwent HSCT. Authors showed that the combination of both endoscopic procedures with biopsies taken even from normal appearing mucosa better identifies the syndrome than each procedure alone. Minor comments 1. The abstract is lengthy; should be shortened 2. Is the histological classification of the severity of GVHD arbitrary? If not, please give reference 3. Inclusion of representative pictures would largely enrich the manuscript

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy

Manuscript NO: 58430

Title: Assessing the yield and safety of endoscopy in acute graft-vs-host disease after hematopoietic stem cell transplant

Reviewer's code: 00058381

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Austria

Author's Country/Territory: United States

Manuscript submission date: 2020-07-22

Reviewer chosen by: Jia-Ping Yan

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-07-26 06:05

Reviewer performed review: 2020-07-28 00:17

Review time: 1 Day and 18 Hours

Scientific quality	<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
Language quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<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
Re-review	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Overall comment: (1) This evaluation aims at assessing the yield and safety of endoscopy in acute GVHD after HSCT; it provides local quality control rather than innovative research and has the drawbacks of a retrospective study design. As stated by the authors at the end of the discussion, further investigations will be needed. Specific comments: (2) Patients who did not have tissue biopsied during endoscopy were excluded; it would be crucial to know the reasons why no biopsies were performed in them (selection bias?). (3) Current medication of the included patients (e.g., Mycophenolate)? (4) A potential limitation for the yield of endoscopy is that pathological classification is subject to interobserver variability; illustrative images would be important. (5) Some numbers are not clear; e.g., Table 1: hematologic disorders n=195 (AML 80 + B-ALL 34 + MDS 30 + Myelofibrosis 13?); Table 1/Table 4: different numbers for "Diarrhea", "Nausea/vomiting", "Abdominal pain". (6) The text (and especially the abstract) should be more concise. (7) Reference list: Some references are incomplete/the format does not follow the guidelines of the journal.

RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy

Manuscript NO: 58430

Title: Assessing the yield and safety of endoscopy in acute graft-vs-host disease after hematopoietic stem cell transplant

Reviewer's code: 00039316

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: FEBG, MD, PhD

Professional title: Associate Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Greece

Author's Country/Territory: United States

Manuscript submission date: 2020-07-22

Reviewer chosen by: Jia-Ping Yan

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-08-31 06:40

Reviewer performed review: 2020-08-31 12:26

Review time: 5 Hours

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<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
Conclusion	<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
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: <input type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS



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Please shorten the abstract