

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS



June 24th, 2013

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 3812-edited-Review.doc).

Title: Achalasia: a review of clinical diagnosis, epidemiology, treatment and outcomes

Author: Orla M O'Neill, Brian T Johnston, Helen G Coleman

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 3812

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

Reviewer 1

Achalasia: a review of clinical diagnosis, epidemiology, treatment and outcomes. O' Neill OM et al. The authors present a review of the present literature regarding these aspects of achalasia. The manuscript is well written, up to date and presents the reader with a comprehensive understanding of this rare condition. With the exception of a few typos, I have no remarks to the manuscript. Minor points (typos): P 4: "bird' s beak" is used in the text, whereas "Bird Beak" is used in Figure 3, and "bird-beak" in the figure legend. p 8: "adrenocorticotrophic hormone resistant" (not "resistance") P 9: "multiple" (not "multiople")

Reviewer 2

This is a broad review on achalasia epidemiology, diagnosis and therapy. The manuscript is well written and the references updated. The epidemiology section is perhaps the most interesting and thoughtful. Perhaps I would have expected a more extensive comment on the new technological approaches to diagnosis, vg. high resolution manometry and high resolution esophageal pressure topography and their relationship with response to therapy. Some authors also suggest that esophagogastric junction distensibility may be associated with esophageal emptying better than LES pressure. Perhaps this may also deserve a comment. Finally, as authors state, esophageal cancer screening may not be cost-effective. In fact, the latest ASGE guidelines do not recommend surveillance (Gastrointest Endosc 2012).

1 Format has been updated

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewers

- (1) All of the highlighted typos by reviewer 1 have been amended.
- (2) We feel we have adequately commented on high-resolution manometry in the 'diagnosis' section on page 4. We have included additional sentences at the end of this section, relating to new technological approaches to diagnosis.
- (3) Reference to the ASGE guidelines has now been made in the penultimate paragraph as suggested.

3 References and typesetting were corrected. Please note we were unable to access the DOI for all references. The Pubmed ID has been included for all relevant references except reference 21. We have uploaded a copy of this paper as per your instructions.

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

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. Coleman'.

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