

ESPS Peer-review Report

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 5970

Title: The Dark side of the Mood: The role of negative affects in the pathophysiology and clinical expression of Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS).

Reviewer code: 00504992

Science editor: Gou, Su-Xin

Date sent for review: 2013-10-02 11:45

Date reviewed: 2013-11-29 15:21

| CLASSIFICATION | LANGUAGE EVALUATION | RECOMMENDATION | CONCLUSION |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent) | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority Publishing | Google Search: | <input type="checkbox"/> Accept |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B (Very good) | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Existed | <input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C (Good) | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: a great deal of language polishing | <input type="checkbox"/> No records | <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair) | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected | <input type="checkbox"/> Existed | <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor) | | <input type="checkbox"/> No records | <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision |

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The present report reviews current status of knowledge related to psychological factor, in particular negative affects, in the pathophysiology of irritable bowel syndrome. Main problem of the present report is the “complexity” of the language. Sentences are too long, with a complex grammatical structure. This is common in non-native English speakers (particularly with a Latin mother tongue). English sentences, because of grammatical reasons, tend to be short and concise. Here, the authors abuse of the use of “:” and “;” to construct too long and too complicated sentences. An extensive style review (preferably by a native speaker) is recommended. This will make the report more reader friendly and more accessible. Few examples are given below. Potential therapies based on the modification of the changes induced by negative affects could be of interest. The authors should discuss briefly therapeutic targets/approaches modifying the systems primarily affected by negative affects. Specific comments Abstract, line 6: “moderate”? Perhaps “modulate” Abstract, lines 10-16: A single sentence, difficult to follow. Rewrite dividing in more concise statements. Abstract, line 13: “...associated to in relation to...”? Review Page 3, lines 5-6: “...and incomplete evacuation and urgency...”? Review Page 3, line 7: “...structural biochemical abnormalities...”? Review Page 3, lines 12-13: probably: “...health care and /or cultural factors...” Page 3, lines 15-20: Single sentence; simplify and divide. Page 4, line 3: “...understanding of the pathogenesis...” Page 4, line 8: “...that the disorder is...” What disorder? IBS? Review and be more precise. Page 4, line 24: “...moderate symptom...” better “modulate” Page 4, lines 4-5: “...In animal models if rodents...”? Review Page 5, line 21: “...disturb the development of GI physiologic maturation.”? Consider review. Page 5, line 28: “...anger, on the pathophysiology....” Page 7, line 8: “...the rise



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time..."? Review Page 7, line 9: "...the recovery function of the response..."? clarify Page 7, line 16: "...salient.."? Page 8, line 1-5: Not clear, consider review. Page 8, las line: Delete "(p. 75)" Page 9, line 22: Delete "(p. 301)" Page 12, lines 12-13: "...childhood ...in adulthood"? Review sentence. Page 13, line 27: "The autonomic servous system..." Delete "(ANS)"; the abbreviation was used before. Page 14, line 3: Delete "autonomic nervous system". Use "ANS", the abbreviation was used before. Page 14, line 15: Delete "enteric nervous system", use directly "ENS", the abbreviation was used before. Page 14, line 18: Should be "mediates", not "mediated". Page 16, lines 11-12: What do the authors mean by "smaller hyppocampal volume partially mediated the effects..."? The "hyppocampal volume" cannot mediate a response; perhaps there is a relation between hyppocampal volume and early-life adversity/depression. Explain better.



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ESPS Manuscript NO: 5970

Title: The Dark side of the Mood: The role of negative affects in the pathophysiology and clinical expression of Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS).

Reviewer code: 02442330

Science editor: Gou, Su-Xin

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| CLASSIFICATION | LANGUAGE EVALUATION | RECOMMENDATION | CONCLUSION |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent) | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority Publishing | Google Search: | <input type="checkbox"/> Accept |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B (Very good) | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Existed | <input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair) | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected | BPG Search: | <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor) | | <input type="checkbox"/> Existed | <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> No records | |

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

High quality review dealing with the negative mood affects on the pathophysiology and the clinical expression of IBS. Minor needs for remission: Ad Introduction: The author state the lack of demonstrable pathological abnormalities and reliable biomarkers. The authors have to add in clinical routine biopsies and examinations since it has been shown that the number of lymphocytes, mast cells, EC cells, and nerve fibers are, at least in IBS subtypes, increased (Spiller, Gastroenterology 2003; Guilarte, Gut 2007; Akbar, Gut 2008, Barbara, Neurogastroenterol Motil 2011) and an increased amount of nerve activating mediators are released from the colonic mucosa in IBS patients (Buhner, Gastroenterology 2009). These “new” aspects in the pathophysiology of IBS have to be added into the third paragraph of the introduction chapter. Regarding sexual or physical abuse stated in the last paragraph before the chapter “The immune system” it has to be clarified that sexual or physical abuse can be a key predisposing factor for the development of IBS, however it is has occurred in only a minority of all IBS patients.