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ESPS Peer-review Report

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 6749

Title: Gut dysfunction in patients with liver cirrhosis

Reviewer code: 02438768

Science editor: Ya-Juan Ma

Date sent for review: 2013-10-29 09:12

Date reviewed: 2013-12-26 09:08

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)		BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Comments for ESPS Manuscript NO: 6749 General comments: The references used in the manuscript are out of date, and the manuscript carries no credibility for innovativeness. Therefore, this review cannot reflect the latest research development. I cannot recommend this review to be published in this journal.



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ESPS Peer-review Report

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 6749

Title: Gut dysfunction in patients with liver cirrhosis

Reviewer code: 01316799

Science editor: Ya-Juan Ma

Date sent for review: 2013-10-29 09:12

Date reviewed: 2013-12-30 11:08

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	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

The current review by Dr. Evangelos Kalaitzak is an interesting and important one, which is largely derived from his doctoral thesis and researches in recent years. The manuscript is well written and organized and its publication may help the readers to better understand the pathophysiological alterations in gastrointestinal system in liver cirrhosis. I would suggest a direct acceptance.



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ESPS Peer-review Report

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 6749

Title: Gut dysfunction in patients with liver cirrhosis

Reviewer code: 01429599

Science editor: Ya-Juan Ma

Date sent for review: 2013-10-29 09:12

Date reviewed: 2014-01-07 23:31

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input checked="" 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)		BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The review deals with an important clinical problem; however the manuscript needs some relevant changes. The major point is related to the fact that it is not clear the clinical meaning of the reported functional alteration of the gastrointestinal tract. In fact no data on the prevalence/incidence of these alterations are provided and most of the reported clinical studies have been performed by a single center (that of the Author) and, consequently, it is not possible to have objective data. Furthermore the introductory parts of the single paragraph related to the functional alterations are too long and reported data not in cirrhotic patients. On the contrary, the most important aspect of this theme (e.g. the intestinal permeability and bacterial translocation and their clinical consequences) is not deeply discussed. Minor aspects are related to the lack of discussion about the role of cholestasis in fat malabsorption (page 4), and the reported presence of esophageal varices only in alcoholic cirrhosis (page 5).



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ESPS Peer-review Report

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 6749

Title: Gut dysfunction in patients with liver cirrhosis

Reviewer code: 02439211

Science editor: Ya-Juan Ma

Date sent for review: 2013-10-29 09:12

Date reviewed: 2014-01-09 21:47

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	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

I list them in the following paragraph, hoping they would be beneficial to the reader. First, at going through the references, I found that only 8 of the 117 articles were published within five years, most of them are relatively old, so I suggest more new articles be added in to make the review more refreshing. Second, the review should be more informative. You are writing to enable readers acquire knowledge, so you need not to be hasty in shifting from one point to another. You'd better clearly define or explain the key technical terms before you talk about them, bearing mind that readers might not know them accurately. For example, the word 'gut barrier' appeared 4 times in the work, but what is it? What is it constituted of? I think you should provide a little extra knowledge about it beforehand to make reading easier. Another suggestion is that some advanced finding should be emphasized. For instance, the enterocyte tight junction proteins alteration in liver cirrhosis, which might represent an important cellular mechanism for intestinal barrier dysfunction and hyperpermeability in patients with liver cirrhosis, worth more than one sentence. Third, the conclusion should not be merely a repetition of the abstract or a summary of the text, it should be more inspiring. After introducing the fruitful research findings in the text, it is still necessary to make readers in better positions to study the mechanism of gut dysfunction in liver cirrhosis or find solutions to it. In this sense, a little more indication would mean a lot.



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ESPS Peer-review Report

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 6749

Title: Gut dysfunction in patients with liver cirrhosis

Reviewer code: 00003629

Science editor: Ya-Juan Ma

Date sent for review: 2013-10-29 09:12

Date reviewed: 2014-04-06 21:02

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	BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)		<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The review article by Kalaitzakis E et al entitled "Gut dysfunction in patients with liver cirrhosis", is a well written and documented report on the stated subject. The author and his co-workers are well known from their work on the pathophysiology of cirrhosis and the GI tract and this review includes aspects of their group experience on the subject. Following are some more detailed comments on the paper. Major comments: 1. The text could be shortened by 2-3 pages. 2. A more appropriate title of the review should have been: "Gastrointestinal dysfunction in liver cirrhosis". The present title as it is, may mislead the reader, that the review refers only to intestinal disturbances of cirrhosis. 3. (Page 3, "Malnutrition in liver cirrhosis"): Some consideration must be given to the role of reduced synthetic ability of the liver for the development of sarcopenia of chronic liver failure. 4. (Page 5, 2nd paragraph, 15th line from bottom): The range 11-94% is too wide. Please give some explanation and refer to a more recent bibliography. 5. (Page 12, Conclusion): "GI symptoms are common in patients with liver cirrhosis": The reader would expect a more detailed description of the type and frequency of GI symptoms present in cirrhosis. Before referring to pathophysiology of motility, function and disturbances of the GI tract in cirrhosis, a short section of common GI symptoms in cirrhosis appears necessary. Minor Comments: 1. A few grammatical and typing errors throughout the text. Please use shorter sentences. It makes reading easier. 2. (Page 3, "GI symptoms in patients with liver cirrhosis"): The phrase "as well as to patients with chronic renal failure on hemodialysis [26]" is irrelevant. 3. (Page 3, 5th line from bottom): "Satiety". 4. (Page 5, 3rd line from bottom): "in cirrhotics compared to those...".



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ESPS Peer-review Report

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 6749

Title: Gut dysfunction in patients with liver cirrhosis

Reviewer code: 02529109

Science editor: Ya-Juan Ma

Date sent for review: 2013-10-29 09:12

Date reviewed: 2014-04-13 15:22

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent)	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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)		BPG Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The clinical problem is common, the pathophysiology of the disorders is complex and not fully elucidated. The subject of the article is very interesting, however rather difficult to “digest” for non-physiologists. I have found several physiological parameters or terminology, which should be additionally explained in the article, e.g. intestinal vasculopathy in portal hypertension, gut hypersensitivity, epithelial barrier. The changes in gut microbiota in liver cirrhosis are very important, but not explained in the text based on the current knowledge e.g. J Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2014 Feb 18. doi: 10.1111/jgh.12556). Majority of references were published before 2010. We could find in Pub Med many papers dealing with the gut dysfunction in liver cirrhosis published after 2011 y. Therefore, I suggest that the Author has improved and modernized the manuscript.