

ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS manuscript NO: 15475

Title: Cardiac Autonomic Dysfunction in Patients with Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease

Reviewer's code: 00227355

Reviewer's country: Japan

Science editor: Yuan Qi

Date sent for review: 2014-11-27 09:19

Date reviewed: 2015-01-02 00:20

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	PubMed Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In this article, Branislav Milovanovic et al present the assessment of autonomic nervous function in patients with diagnosis of gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD). This paper shows that patients with GERD have distortion of both components of autonomic nervous system (ANS), but that the impairment of parasympathetic function seems to be more congruent to GERD. This is an interesting report for the clinical practice. Overall the report appears to be carefully examined and data adequately discussed. I have a few comments to make. 1) It may be better to increase the number of patients in comparison with healthy volunteers. 2) How about the cardiac prognosis of patients with GERD in this report? 3) How about the clinical characteristics of patients with GERD and healthy volunteers? 4) What is the mechanism of impairment of parasympathetic function of the patients with GERD in this report? 5) Did *Helicobacter pylori* infection affect the ANS of patients with GERD in this report? 6) Did medication to GERD improve the ANS of patients with GERD in this report?

ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS manuscript NO: 15475

Title: Cardiac Autonomic Dysfunction in Patients with Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease

Reviewer's code: 00227531

Reviewer's country: Spain

Science editor: Yuan Qi

Date sent for review: 2014-11-27 09:19

Date reviewed: 2014-12-28 20:30

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	PubMed Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<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"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		[Y] No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		[Y] No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors of this study convincingly demonstrate that patients with gastric reflux have alterations of the sympathetic and parasympathetic system. The strength of the study is the comprehensive battery of tools to demonstrate it. The weakness is that this is a confirmatory study, which should be recognized in an (inexistent) limitations section. There are several diagnostic codes that need clear definition: early and definitive parasympathetic dysfunction, positive cardiovascular reflex test, severe autonomic dysfunction, abnormal vagal function, abnormal response to Valsalva maneuver and so on..... Clarify which were the 5 standard Ewing tests performed, as stated in the methods section. Later in this section it seems that only 3 tests were performed. Also, handgrip test is not mentioned in the summary of the tests at the beginning of this methods section (page 5) There is information about the tables in the middle of the test (?) which belongs to the Tables section. The paper is too long and difficult to follow. There is repeated information everywhere. It should be shortened by 40%. The abstract is also too long. Information of the tables should not be repeated in the text. Which are the clinical implications of the study, if any?. Or what further research may be derived from this study? Abbreviations should be provided in the Tables, as well as the p values for



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intergroup comparisons. The use of the English language needs adequate revision. The authors write as if other investigators did the research, instead of themselves.