

ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS manuscript NO: 25617

Title: Childhood Constipation as an emerging Public Health Problem

Reviewer's code: 00051367

Reviewer's country: Italy

Science editor: Ze-Mao Gong

Date sent for review: 2016-03-19 15:06

Date reviewed: 2016-03-28 22:37

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

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The paper covers in equibrate matter all the aspects of the question. I have only some doubts about the relevance of the figures.

ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS manuscript NO: 25617

Title: Childhood Constipation as an emerging Public Health Problem

Reviewer's code: 03261180

Reviewer's country: Brazil

Science editor: Ze-Mao Gong

Date sent for review: 2016-03-19 15:06

Date reviewed: 2016-04-04 04:19

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	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"/> 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 type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
		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

This review is very important. Its great merit is to approach childhood constipation trying to change the paradigm from diagnosis and treatment to prevention, by looking at the risk factors. The authors should be congratulated for that.

Small corrections are outlined in the text (below) in green

In addition, some suggestions are made, as follows:

- The title could be: Childhood Constipation as an **increasing** Public Health Problem
- Keywords could be less specific about risk factors, because not all can be listed. The suggestion is: constipation, children, public health, prevention, risk factors
- The text could be a bit more concise, avoiding some repetitions.
- Important citations could be added for information. About enuresis, O'Regan et al. Clin Nephrol, 1985; AJDC, 1986. About toilet training, [Blum](#) et al. Pediatrics 2004; 113: e520-2. Discussion should be changed accordingly.
- The items **Complications** and **Poor Health Related Quality of Life** clearly contemplate the possible psychological disturbances **secondary to** constipation's complications. The question

is how much of the 'Psychological co-morbidities' are **secondary to constipation**. Should this not be stressed also in this item?

- In Definitions leading to misunderstandings of childhood FC it is stated: "In addition, some researchers have used single symptoms such as difficulty in passing stools to define FC in epidemiological surveys^[16]. Descriptions of this nature have shown disproportionately higher prevalence of this condition."

This is a very selective statement, since also other surveys depicted a high prevalence and must be considered.

- Also, one should be more careful about the statement in Epidemiology: 'These data seem more reliable as they have used standard definitions (Rome III) compared to previous research which have used very simple defections such as difficulty in passing stools.'

Which data are more reliable has not yet been proved against a gold standard. Suggestion would be: These data can be compared to the other studies which have used standard definitions (Rome III) in contrast to previous research which have used very simple definitions such as difficulty in passing stools and/or hard, cracked stools.

ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS manuscript NO: 25617

Title: Childhood Constipation as an emerging Public Health Problem

Reviewer's code: 00042186

Reviewer's country: Italy

Science editor: Ze-Mao Gong

Date sent for review: 2016-03-19 15:06

Date reviewed: 2016-04-14 18:22

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	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"/> The same title	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
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		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

It is a quite comprehensive summary/review on childhood constipation. The authors analyze the problem in all his aspects and in a quite complete way. Nevertheless the text seems too long and a shorter and simpler version could be useful for a better reading.