



**ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT**

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 28838

**Title:** THE PREVALENCE OF GASTROESOPHAGEAL REFLUX DISEASE IN A COUNTRY WITH A HIGH OCCURRENCE OF HELICOBACTER PYLORI

**Reviewer’s code:** 00204529

**Reviewer’s country:** United States

**Science editor:** Yuan Qi

**Date sent for review:** 2016-08-14 10:23

**Date reviewed:** 2016-08-24 19:32

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 type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<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"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input type="checkbox"/> No	

**COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

The authors report an analysis in Turkey of the prevalence of esophageal reflux and associated symptoms where there is also a high prevalence of H. pylori infection. The contribution is unique and interesting and casts light on variant presentation of symptoms of reflux disease in a country with mixed Western and Eastern influences. The work is ambition and thought provoking. Greater explanation and clarification of some analyses and tools is required. Specific comments are outline below: Abstract: Some indication of subjects were selected needs to be spelled out. “Underprivileged” needs definition. Introduction: the “Mayo questionnaire” requires a bit more description about what it measures and how. Methods: Clarify what “representatively selected” subjects means. The phrase “17 cities” is repeated 3 times in sequence, state this once. How was a lottery used to select cities? Geog should be corrected to geographic. Should “dementia” as an exclusion be clarified to “and other medical issues?” Questionnaire: References to explain the statistical analysis should be included. Was there consideration to add any lower GI complaints such as constipation and diarrhea? Was use of other antacids containing



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sodium bicarbonate included? Stress needs definition. Were patients with known *Helicobacter pylori* excluded? Was active treatment and follow up by a medical person factored in? Was a multivariate analysis considered to sort out more important factors? Results: It is surprising that regurgitation, which is vomiting, was present in up to 19% of patients with GERD. H.P.: How were patients randomized and determined to be “eligible” for testing? Listing of actual percentages of HP positivity in different areas would be of interest. Discussion: should be truncated and shortened. While CagA strains of HP appear more associated with developing gastric cancer, the authors do not clarify whether variation in strains impacts on gastritis or reflux. If there is a difference this should be cited and discussed, if not this also should be cited and discussed.