

ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS manuscript NO: 20006

Title: High rate of Helicobacter pylori reinfection in Lithuanian peptic ulcer patients

Reviewer's code: 02535237

Reviewer's country: Bulgaria

Science editor: Jing Yu

Date sent for review: 2015-05-29 16:08

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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 type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
		BPG Search:	<input checked="" 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

The subject of the present manuscript is interesting and important, as there are not many studies on the annual rate of H. pylori reinfection in this geographic area. However, some additions and clarifications should be performed to improve the manuscript. 1. Page 2, Abstract, line 3: HP should be given in full the first time. 2. Page 2, lines 17-18: I do not agree that it should be stated: "If most optimistic analysis is applied (considering that all non-responders are HP-negative),..." This statement should be removed from the abstract and may be mentioned briefly in the Discussion section. 3. Page 4, Core tip, lines 7-8 : The authors state : ? According to our study, HP reinfection rate in Lithuania is relatively high (the annual rate being 3.36%), suggesting that the prevalence of HP remains high. " However, they speculate in the "optimistic case" that the annual rate of the reinfection would be 1.63%, and this percentage is similar to that in the developing countries (1.68%) as the authors state on page 5, line 13. 4. Page 6, Material and Methods: The patients should be described better according to their age, possible comorbidity and previous treatment. 5. Page 6, lines 17-19: How many patients were tested by RUT and histology, how many by 14C UBT and how many by serology? 6. Page 6, lines 11-19: The methods (14C UBT, histology and serology) should be



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described. 7. What method (rapid or quantitative) was used for the serology? The serology is not the optimal method (accuracy, most often <85%) to detect H. pylori eradication. For some tests, the cut-off should be validated locally and rapid serologic tests are unsuitable to control the eradication. 8. Page 8, Discussion, lines 16-19: see Notes #2 and 3. 9. Page 8, Discussion, lines 20-22: "This may indicate that in Lithuania the decrease of the prevalence of HP infection is not as fast as it was supposed" Are not there any studies about the current prevalence of the infection in Lithuania? If there are no such data, the past and present incidence of the gastric cancer could give some useful information about. 10. Table 1: The statement "The efficacy of eradication treatment assessed as "good" or "excellent"" needs clarification. 11. Table 1: Satisfied with general status of "digestion" needs clarification.

ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS manuscript NO: 20006

Title: High rate of Helicobacter pylori reinfection in Lithuanian peptic ulcer patients

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<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
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		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript entitled : High rate of Helicobacter pylori reinfection in Lithuanian peptic ulcer patients presents very important and current aspects of H. pylori infection concerning the rate of reinfection in already treated patients. Similar studies were carried out in other research centers but the data in Central and Eastern European Countries are scarce. The study is interesting but some aspects should be clarified. In the section material and methods it should be specified how the patients were treated, with what kind of regimens (the same regimen or different) and for how many days? It is important to know, because this factor may affect the results of the study. The findings of the present study deserve to be discussed more deeply. The authors assumed that a high percentage of re-infection in the study is associated with socioeconomic status in Lithuania. However, there are many other factors that affect the reinfection as though the rate of resistance to antibiotics or recrudescence of infection. Also, recent reports suggest that other niches like oral cavity can affect the rate of reinfection. Moreover how authors may conclude that “ the reinfection rate of H. pylori in Lithuania is relatively high, suggesting that the prevalence of H. pylori remains high” and the most important cause of that is socioeconomic status when they did not examine the socioeconomic status



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of the patients. There are some studies published recently showing that in some populations the reinfection rate of H. pylori can be high even when the prevalence of H. pylori infection is low. The authors did not test the prevalence of H. pylori infection and did not show current data of the prevalence H. pylori infection in Lithuania. Final assumptions must be regarded cautiously (...it should be mentioned specifically in "this cohort " of patients...), because the examined group was too small and results can not be applied to whole population in Lithuania. References: not updated, more than 70 % of the references are older than 5 years. It would be much better to insert more recent references In whole text there are many stylistic and linguistic errors. English corrector is urgently needed. Overall, the manuscript requires some formal revision, The sections, such as abstract, introduction and discussion should be clearly improved.