

Re: Revision "Age, alcohol, sex, and metabolic factors as risk factors for colonic diverticulosis".(manuscript NO: 69543)

Dear Editors,

We thank you and the reviewer for giving us the opportunity to revise our manuscript. We have carefully studied the comments raised by the reviewer and Editors. The following are the point-by-point responses to the reviewer's comments.

Sincerely,

Shuang Pan

The First Affiliated Hospital of Wenzhou Medical University

panshuang@wzhospital.cn

Reviewer :

Comments to author:

Specific Comments to Authors: This is an interesting study. It is well thought out and the statistics are robust. My only real comment is it is unclear why the study subjects, many in their 40s underwent a colonoscopy. screening is not usually performed in this age, This point needs to be clarified both in terms of

the reason for the colonoscopy and any possible underlying illnesses and the ethical issue of performing an invasive endoscopic procedure.

Response:

(1) We appreciate your positive comment and suggestion. In China, the incidence rates of colorectal cancer shows a rapidly increasing trend since the age of 40 and accelerates after the age of 50. According to the clinical epidemiological data of colorectal cancer in China, China's colorectal screening guidelines suggest that colorectal screening should be carried out at the age of 50 to 75 , and more attention should be paid to the age of 40 to 49 or even younger[1]. Our physical examination center is located in the eastern coastal region with superior socioeconomic , rich medical resources and highly educated people. Compared with less developed areas, people in developed coastal areas pay more attention to physical examinations, and the population who undergoing physical examination is younger. The mean age of the enrolled population in this study is 48.11 ± 10.53 years old, which is consistent with the current situation of local colonoscopy screening.

(2) This study was approved by the Institutional Review Board and Ethics Committee of the First Affiliated Hospital of Wenzhou Medical University. The requirement for informed consent was waived owing to the retrospective nature of the study.

Editor:

Comments to author:

The authors present a study in the risk factors associated with diverticular disease in a large sample of patients. The manuscript is well-written and concise. As the reviewer has pointed out, the large number of patients younger than 60 of age who underwent colonoscopy should be further explained.

Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)

Scientific Quality: Grade B (Very good)

Response:

(1) Thank you for taking the time and effort to help us improve the manuscript.

We have explained this part in the last paragraph. If you have any questions , I am willing to explain and revise.

(2) The manuscript has been polished by professional English language editing company when I submitted the manuscript . I am willing to further polish the language if you think it is necessary.

1. 国家消化系统疾病临床医学研究中心, et al., *中国早期结直肠癌筛查流程专家共识意见(2019,上海)*. 中华内科杂志, 2019. **58**(10): p. 736-744.