

June, 24, 2021

Dear Editor-in-Chief

**Re: Submission of a Revised manuscript to the WORLD JOURNAL OF CLINICAL CASES**

Thank you very much for giving us the opportunity to revise our *invited review* (Manuscript NO.: 67792, Minireviews)

We would be grateful for the consideration of our revised manuscript “*The association between celiac disease and vitiligo: a review of the literature*” (by Zhang et al.) for publication in the *World Journal of Clinical Cases*.

The authors have read and complied with author guidelines, and they all have seen and approved this manuscript for publication. None of the authors had a conflict of interest to disclose concerning this manuscript.

We are grateful to the Editors for their precious contributions and comments. We have revised our manuscript accordingly for grammar, style, structure and we hope that you will now find it suitable for publication in the *World Journal of Clinical Cases*. In case of final acceptance, we agree to make this manuscript open-access.

The changes in the manuscript are identified in track change mode. Below you can find a point-by-point reply to the reviewers. We used red to denote revised or inserted text.

*Thank you for your precious time.*

We are looking forward to receiving your decision in due time.

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**Reply to Editors:**

**1 Peer-review report**

**Dear Reviewer #1:**

Thank you for your comments concerning our manuscript. Those comments are valuable and very helpful for revising and improving our paper, as well as the important guiding significance to our researches. We have studied comments carefully and have made correction which we hope meet with approval. Once again, thank you very much for your comments and suggestions.

The responds to your comments are as flowing:

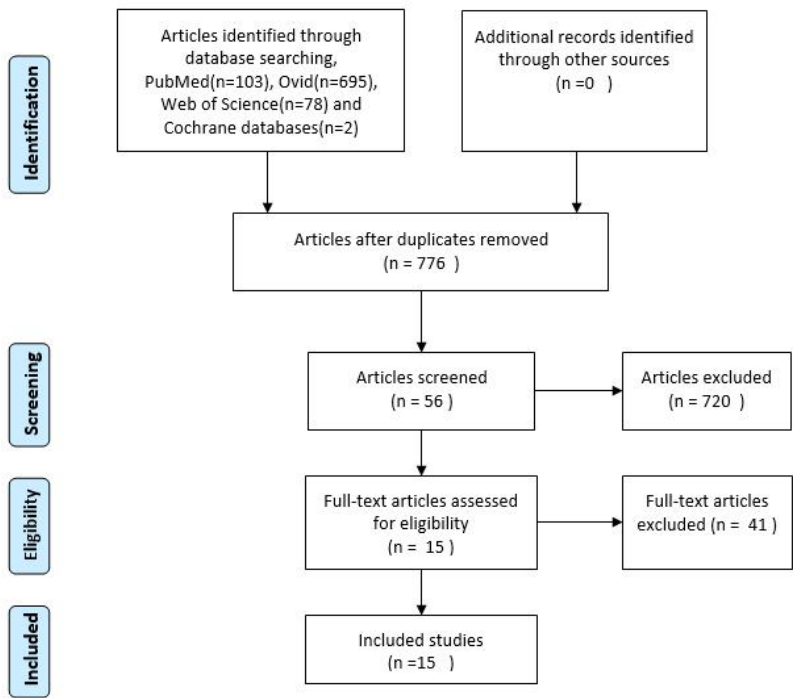
**First of all, vitiligo across the manuscript is described as "skin leukoplakia". Although "leukoplakia" in Greek indeed means "white patch/plaque" in dermatology "leukoplakia" is a term used for a totally different, pre-cancerous condition, usually in the oral mucosa. The word "leukoplakia" should be replaced with something else e.g. patch. Herpetiform dermatitis is also a term that almost no one uses. I think that dermatitis herpetiformis is more appropriate.**

*Reply: Thank you for your suggestion. We have made correction according to your comment.*

**Although it's clear that the authors worked hard to present all available data, this work is not reflected on the "Literature Analysis" paragraph. I searched PubMed with the string "celiac disease" OR "gluten-free diet" AND "vitiligo" and only found 82 results. Where are those 878 studies mentioned? Of the 776 studies screened only 56 met specific criteria. Which are those? It's not clear in the manuscript. It's a literature review, if the search strategy is not very clear AND easily reproducible by anyone the point of the manuscript is lost. The literature search should be described better.**

*Reply: In order to avoid the omission of relevant literature, we did not limit the search conditions. Therefore, we have a large number of search results. We searched the PubMed, Ovid, Web of Science and Cochrane databases for published articles from their inception to February 2021, and the results were 103, 695, 78 and 2 articles respectively. After reviewing the selected articles and their references, 15 eligible studies were included. PRISMA diagram demonstrating study selection is shown below.*

Figure 1 PRISMA diagram demonstrating study selection



PubMed.gov

Search: ((gluten-free diet) OR (celiac disease)) AND (vitiligo)

Advanced Create alert Create RSS User Guide

Save Email Send to Sorted by: Best match Display options

MY NCBI FILTERS

103 results

RESULTS BY YEAR



1 article found by citation matching

Repigmentation of vitiligo lesions in a child with celiac disease after a gluten-free diet.

Ovid®

Search Journals Books Multimedia My Workspace EBP Tools What's New

Search History (1)

#	Searches	Results	Type
1	((celiac disease or gluten-free diet) and vitiligo).af.	695	Advanced

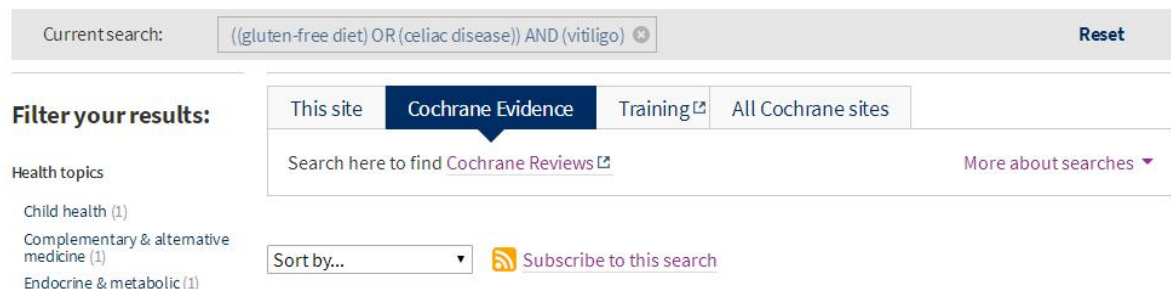
Save Remove Combine with: AND OR

Save All Edit Create RSS View Saved

Email All Search History Copy Search History



2 search results for "((gluten-free diet) OR (celiac disease)) AND (vitiligo)"



The presentation of the results and the tables are fine, the discussion is very detailed and the conclusion/message to the reader is correct, the relation between the two diseases is very probable but not many more details are known.

*Reply:* Thank you for your appreciation of this study. The details of the current relationship between celiac disease and vitiligo really need to be further studied. The purpose of my article is to attract more researchers' attention and further study.

#### Reviewer #2:

**Scientific Quality: Grade A (Excellent)**

**Language Quality: Grade A (Priority publishing)**

**Conclusion: Accept (High priority)**

**Specific Comments to Authors: no**

*Reply:* Thank you very much for your appreciation and affirmation of this article.

#### 2 Editorial Office's comments

1) Science Editor:

- (1) I found the title was more than 18 words. The title should be no more than 18 words; and
- (2) I found the authors did not provide the approved grant application form(s). Please upload the approved grant application form(s) or funding agency copy of any approval document(s).

*Reply:* Thank you for your suggestion. We have made correction according to your comment.