

## Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS



March 28, 2013

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 2567-review.doc).

**Title:** Endoscopic retrieval of 28 foreign bodies in a 100-year-old female that attempted suicide

**Author:** Quanpeng Li, Xianxiu Ge, Guozhong Ji, Zhining Fan, Faming Zhang, Yun Wang, Lin Miao

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

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 2567

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format has been updated

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewers

(1) Reviewer 00504202

Comment 1: The article reports a clinical case rare indeed. The interest for the publication is mainly due to its uniqueness. I could not find similar case reports in PubMed. The clinical case is briefly described with properties. In my opinion, the authors should better explain the relationship between the number of foreign bodies and dyspnea, possibly due to a mechanical compression or episodes of ab-ingestis. It would be also a better description of why foreign bodies (small in size) were impacted in the distal esophagus and not accumulated in the stomach. Probably there was an organic or functional narrowing of the cardia. This clarification should be better described. The language is correct and fluent Pictures are well done but not excellent.

Response to comment 1: I think the reasons for the patient's dyspnea were both mechanical compression of the airway and functional narrowing of the cardia because of the irritation of the foreign bodies. We revised the content in "DISCUSSION" based on this comment.

(2) Reviewer 00504418

This manuscript describes a successful treatment of endoscopic removal of foreign bodies that were swallowed by a centenarian woman. However, there are several queries as follows;

Comment 1: How long did you take to complete the whole procedure?

Response to comment 1: It took about half an hour. We mentioned the time and discussed this aspect in the revised manuscript.

Comment 2: Could you describe her postoperative course in CASE REPORT?

Response to comment 2: According to the reviewer indicated, we added the procedure of postoperative course in the revised manuscript.

Comment 3: How about her fracture?

Response to comment 3: She had a hip fracture for three months, and was bedridden for conservative treatment. She currently is in a stable condition and she only has minor pains.

Comment 4: You describe the location of foreign body at the upper esophagus in previous reports. What do you think regarding the foreign bodies locating at the lower esophagus in this patient?

Response to comment 4: In this case, the foreign bodies were located in the lower esophagus. Foreign bodies in the upper esophagus may cause mechanical compression of the airway while, in the lower esophagus functional narrowing of the cardia occurs.

Comment 5: Did you use the over-tube with gastroscopy during the removal of foreign body?

Response to comment 5: Yes.

Comment 6: Why did not you use the sedation during endoscopic procedure

Response to comment 6: The time of the procedure would be too long. This was a dangerous factor. The elderly patient was in poor condition, with poor cardiopulmonary compensatory function. There could have been many unpredictable anesthesia risks; moreover, fear of aspiration after anesthesia.

(3) Reviewer 00504218:

This is a paper showing a very rare case of centenarian who digested a variety of foreign bodies.

This report should be informative to readers in the field of digestive endoscopy. My comments are shown below.

Comment 1: Some part from the Abstract seems to have duplicated and migrated to the beginning part of CASE REPORT.

Response to comment 1: We revised the content of the Abstract based on this comment

Comment 2: Authors should state why this patient swallowed so many foreign bodies, although the title describes 'attempting suicide'.

Response to comment 2: The patient had a history of a fracture for over three months, and was bedridden for conservative treatment. There was the intolerable pain and poor mood that caused her to attempt suicide.

Comment 3: The last part in the CASE REPORT does not seem to be necessary; the part about the decrease of oxygen saturation.

Response to comment 3: We deleted the unrelated part, as the reviewer suggested in our revised manuscript.

Comment 4: Does 'common stone reticulum' mean 'stone retrieval net'?

Response to comment 4: Yes.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,

Lin Miao

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