

Editor

World Journal of Gastroenterology

Review, manuscript number 5827: Stool antigen tests for the management of *Helicobacter pylori* infection

Dear editor,

Thank you very much for peer review on my manuscript.

I have revised the review according to the comments made by 2 reviewers. Revised points are indicated by underline.

Point-to point comments are as follows.

Kind regards,

Tadashi Shimoyama

Reviewer 1

1) The most appropriate time for judgment by SAT after eradication of *H. pylori* should be added in the manuscript.

I added a paragraph to explain appropriate time for judgment by SAT after finishing eradication therapy.

2) In addition, the mention about false positive rate of SAT is necessary for better understanding SAT.

I quoted a manuscript of meta-analysis (ref 8) to show specificity of monoclonal antibody-based SAT.

Reviewer 2

1) The editing of the manuscript has to be thoroughly revised. Language level: B. Revision is needed in term of grammar and structure.

I already asked grammar editing to CACTUS communication before submission

(<http://www.editage.jp/index.html>, job number TDS_21).

2) Reflect the major content of the article.

As this title was originally accepted by editorials, it seems to be difficult to change.

3) SATs are not considered as relatively new noninvasive diagnostic module.

I changed the sentence in abstract and text.

4) "The choice of the test kit depends on the accuracy in each population and the situation of each patient." Needs to be clearer to specify what is meant by accuracy in each population.

I modified the sentence in abstract and conclusion to explain the contents clearer.

5) First paragraph: Ref. no3 has to be written correctly "Following the recommendation of the Japanese guidelines [3], in 2013, the Japanese health insurance system approved...."

I revised the sentence as suggested.

6) The time course of the appearance /disappearance of the antigen in stool in relation to the disease progress, eradication therapy and the negativity persistence after the given therapy.

There are no useful data to show the

7) The performance of SATs in different clinical settings including upper GI bleeding.

I added a sentence and quoted another paper (ref 27).

8) Other stool tests for direct detection of the bacteria from the stool specimen; culture from stool as well PCR are better to be discussed as other noninvasive tests in such easily obtained specimen.

This review was written for stool antigen tests. Both PCR and culture are not the tests to detect *H. pylori* antigen.

9) Office-based stool test and its clinical usefulness

I added a sentence.

10) "... both monoclonal SAT and UBT were reliable in young children aged 6 to 36

months in South American developing countries [17]." Have to be revised and corrected as the age range is 6 to 30 months.

I changed the sentence as suggested.

11) The journal style for writing names of authors has to be followed.

I corrected ref.3 to follow the journal style.

12) PMID is incorrect for reference16: PMID:11713455 not 11713445

I changed ref 17 (ref 16 in previous version) as suggested.