

January 07, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 7673-review.doc).

Title: *Helicobacter heilmannii* sensu stricto-related gastric ulcers: A case report

Author: Takehisa Matsumoto, Masatomo Kawakubo, Taiji Akamatsu, Naohiko Koide, Naoko Ogiwara, Seiko Kubota, Mitsutoshi Sugano, Yoshiyuki Kawakami, Tsutomu Katsuyama and Hiroyoshi Ota

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 7673

Thank you for kindly reviewing our manuscript. The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers. Our responses to all the comments have been listed below.

1 Format has been updated

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

(1) Reviewer #02536349:

(Comments of Reviewer #02536349)

This is a well-prepared case report about *Helicobacter heilmannii* sensu stricto (as a zoonotic bacterium previously known as *Gastrospirillum hominis*) which is responsible from at least 1% of human peptic disease and possibly related with gastric malignancies such as mucosa associated lymphoid tissue (MALT) lymphoma and gastric adenocarcinoma. Is there any explanation for negative urea breath test, despite to knowledge that one of false positivity of UBT is *H. heilmannii*?

(Answers to Reviewer #02536349)

We appreciate the reviewer's comment.

The false-negative urea breath test for detection of *H. heilmannii* s.l. has been reported previously by several authors, including us.

We have added the sentences as follows:

The sensitivity of urea breath-test for detection of *H. heilmannii* s.l. was reported to be low [30] and in this study, urea breath-test was negative. A false-negative urea breath-test test may occur due to the lower activity of *H. heilmannii* s.l. urease, as suggested by previous studies [30-32].

(2) Reviewer #00041401:

(Comments of Reviewer #00041401)

Dear Authors, This is a well documented proof of a *H. Heilmannii* s.s. infection in a human gastric mucosa. I have two comments; 1. The introduction section is a bit long for a case report and this section can be shortened, 2. Too many references are given, the number of the references can be reduced.

(Answers to Reviewer #00041401)

We appreciate the reviewer's comment.

We have removed some sentence and revised the sentence in the introduction section as follows:

Helicobacter spp. have been isolated from an ever-expanding range of host species 错误:未找到引用源。

Although gastric non-*H. pylori* helicobacters (NHPH) 错误:未找到引用源。 are ubiquitous in animals, including primates, dogs, cats, and pigs, their occurrence in humans is rather low compared to the occurrence of *H. pylori*. NHPH infection in human gastric mucosa has been suggested to occur through zoonotic transmission [6].

3 References and typesetting were corrected

I hope the revised version will now be acceptable for publication in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,

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