

Sep 24, 2013

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 4706-review.doc).

**Title:** A survey of the prevalence and characteristics of dyspepsia of college students in Zhejiang province

**Author:** Li Meng, Lu Bin, Chu Li, Zhou Hong, Chen Mingyan

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

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 4706

First of all, we thank both reviewers and editor for their positive and constructive comments and suggestions. We have revised the manuscript, according to the comments and suggestions, and responded, point by point to, the comments as listed below. And the amendments had been highlighted in blue in the revised manuscript:

1 Format has been updated

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

**Replies to Reviewer #1:**

**Introduction:** The “Introduction” should be clearer about why there is a need to study UD in a group of college students from China.

**Answer:** Thank you very much for the suggestion. we have added much more information (including the H. Pylori prevalence and socioeconomic status of students in China) in the revised manuscript.

**Introduction:** More should be mentioned about the rationale for studying UD in college students.

**Answer:** We have paid attention to this issue and revised the introduction to insure the rationale for this survey in college students.

**Introduction:** Some geographic and demographic information about the province of Zhejiang should be mentioned.

**Answer:** This has been done by adding the socioeconomic status of Zhejiang province in the introduction.

**Discussion:** The “Discussion” section should have a few paragraphs trying to explain why this prevalence is low.

**Answer:** Thank you so much for this suggestion and the useful refs the reviewer mentioned, we have accepted

the suggestion and some modification has been made in the discussion including the role of smoking and alcohol intake.

**Discussion:** Was socio-demographic data for the students captured as well as the information about the living conditions and dietary habits?

**Answer:** Regrettably, however, due to the limited items used in the questionnaire, we could not provide much more information such as the size of family or income of parents and so on. Nevertheless, as far as we know, Zhejiang province is one of the fastest developing cities in China, and in this survey, the majority of university graduates come from the economically developed region. We speculate that these may contribute the relatively low incidence of UD in college students from Zhejiang province which have been discussed in the revised manuscript.

**Discussion:** Differences in the prevalence of IBS, UD and GERD should be discussed further.

**Answer:** We thank the reviewer to raise this important issue, which has been further clarified in the revised version of the manuscript.

**References:** Ref No. 2 is relatively old and outdated.

**Answer:** We have revised the Ref No. 2 with new reference the reviewer suggested.

#### **Replies to Reviewer #2:**

**Title:** Re-write the title to make it more accurate.

**Answer:** We have rewrite the title to “A survey of the prevalence and characteristics of dyspepsia of college students in Zhejiang province” to make it more clear.

**Materials and Methods:** Address some multivariate analyses about the relationship between the incidence of dyspepsia and more factors.

**Answer:** Thank you so much for this critical comment and we totally agree with them which might be of great help to improve the quality of our manuscript, however, the relationship between the incidence of dyspepsia and more factors, such as dietary, socio-cultural, psychological issues and gastrointestinal infection are not analyzed and studied in our survey. Even so, we believe in the closely relationship between these factors and the incidence

of dyspepsia and which will provide foundation for the further study.

**Replies to Reviewer #3:**

The data is only questionnaire from college students, but organic or functional dyspepsia can't be differentiated by definite examinations. The conclusion is only a epidemical survey, further examination and

**Answer:** We thank the reviewer to raise this important issue, however, true functional dyspepsia (FD) or organic dyspepsia, have been difficult to determine in population studies, for logistical difficulties. Therefore, we just report the epidemiology of UD in college students. On the other hand, an organic dyspepsia in the investigated population is low due to the young age and low BMI. So we assume that this epidemical survey may make some sense.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

Thank you again for these positive and constructive comments.

Sincerely yours,

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