



December 9, 2013

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format  
(file name: Kopacova\_Manuscript-No-5998-edited.docx).

**Title: Blood pressure and stature in *Helicobacter pylori* positive and negative persons.  
A prospective multicentre study**

**Authors:**

Marcela Kopacova, Ilona Koupil, Bohumil Seifert, Miluska Skodova Fendrichova, Jana Spirkova, Viktor Vorisek, Stanislav Rejchrt, Tomas Douda, Ilja Tacheci, Jan Bures

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

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 5998

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) We addressed controversial results of previously published papers and our current study
- (2) We have suggested possible mechanisms involved in a shorter stature in children with chronic *Helicobacter pylori* infection
- (3) We added data on blood pressure to results section of the abstract. Blood pressure, weight and body mass index were significantly higher in Hp positive adults compared to Hp negative ones. However, Hp positive adults were significantly older compared to Hp negative subjects. Once adjusted for age and gender, Hp infection did not influence body weight, body mass index and basic vital signs either in adults or children and adolescents.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

4 English text was edited by British native speaker

5 Answers to additional questions / comments of reviewers

- (1) The adjustment for place of residence was important to prevent bias of results from cities, towns and rural areas
- (2) There was a two-round randomization for the study. Determining was a 6-month time interval for the enrollment. A total of 1818 subjects was enrolled within this period
- (3) Adults were listed in one group but all correlation was done adjusted to age so that no bias occurred
- (4) This was an epidemiological population study. The purpose of this Project was not to investigate nutritional status or other possible causes of short stature. Odd ratio provided

reliable information on association of chronic *Helicobacter pylori* infection, statute and blood pressure

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

Sincerely yours,

Professor Marcela Kopacova, MD, PhD  
2nd Department of Medicine - Gastroenterology  
Charles University in Praha, Faculty of Medicine at Hradec Kralove  
University Teaching Hospital,  
Sokolska 581  
500 05 Hradec Kralove  
Czech Republic.  
Fax: +420-495-834785  
E-mail: marcela.kopacova@fnhk.cz