

March 23, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 8993-Review.doc).

**Title:** Constipation-predominant irritable bowel syndrome: A review of current and emerging drug therapies

**Authors:** Khaled A Jadallah, Susan M Kullab, David S Sanders

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

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 8993

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 reviewer

(1) Reviewer No: 2531219

- a. Few spelling mistakes have been detected. These have been corrected.
- b. A figure summarizing the effect of different drugs on the main symptoms of IBS-C (constipation and abdominal pain) was suggested. We believe that this matter has been already addressed in the related tables (mechanism of action and pharmacodynamic effects).
- c. A table illustrating a comparison among different drug classes was suggested. This table has been added, in addition to a short paragraph in the "conclusion" section.
- d. The abstract was deemed to be too long. This has been shortened.

(2) Reviewer No: 34168

- a. The main concern for this Reviewer was the validity of conclusions, given that the design of the review is narrative and not systematic. We added a "methods" paragraph (at the end of the "introduction" section) demonstrating that robust criteria were used in order to select high quality randomized clinical trials, thus increasing the validity of our conclusions. Furthermore, the quality of evidence supporting different pharmacologic agents for IBS-C and CC has been outlined in Table 7.

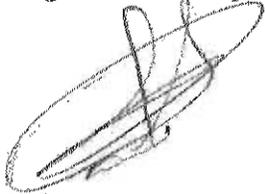
## (3) Reviewer No: 39482

- a. This reviewer suggested the addition of a chapter on "probiotics" in the treatment of IBS-C. Since probiotics are not pharmacologic agents in the strict sense, the authors made a decision not to address the role of probiotics in this article (dedicated exclusively to drug therapies). Actually, two articles have been recently published on WJG, addressing the effects of probiotics on colonic transit (Larry E Miller, Arthur C Ouwehand. Probiotic supplementation decreases intestinal transit time: Meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials. World J Gastroenterol 2013 August 7; 19(29): 4718-4725) and the effect of probiotics in IBS (Cong Dai, Chang-Qing Zheng, Min Jiang, Xiao-Yu Ma, Li-Juan Jiang. Probiotics and irritable bowel syndrome. World J Gastroenterol 2013 September 28; 19(36): 5973-5980). Therefore, we believe that such an addition would be redundant. A statement addressing this issue has been added at the end of the "introduction" section.
- b. The English language evaluation was assigned "Grade B". The manuscript has been edited by a copyediting service provided by a professional English language editing company (Ameditor).

3 References and typesetting were corrected

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

Sincerely yours,



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