
April 2, 2014

Qi, Yuan

Science Editor, World Journal of Gastroenterology

Re: ESPS Manuscript NO: 9677 - Review

Dear Dr. Qi,

Appended please find a revised version of manuscript 9677 titled, "Effect of *Helicobacter pylori* on gastric epithelial cells". We are very thankful to the reviewers and the editor for the positive comments and insightful suggestions, which we followed to improve this invited manuscript for the special issue on *Helicobacter pylori*. One reviewer was very positive on the review and did not offer additional changes. The comments made by the reviewer who provided suggestions are addressed below by either explanations and/or modifications to the manuscript where indicated.

Title: Effect of *Helicobacter pylori* on gastric epithelial cells.

Authors: Shatha Alzahrani , Taslima T. Lina, Jazmin Gonzalez, Irina V. Pinchuk, Ellen J. Beswick, and Victor E. Reyes.

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 9677

A comment by comment response is addressed below:

Reviewer 1:

Comment 1: *"The authors are to be commended for comprehensively reviewing relevant literature on this topic, but they can do more to help readers appraise how convincing the data is. For example, findings that have been repeatedly validated should be distinguished from those just preliminarily reported".*

Response: We appreciate the reviewer's laudatory comments. Changes have been made in the revised manuscript following this reviewer's suggestion to highlight findings that are well established and validated versus those that are preliminary and that warrant additional studies.

Comment 2: *"From a clinician's perspectives, a few notes on the relative importance of these interactions in terms of clinical outcomes will be useful. "*

Response: This is a valid point and changes have been made in the revised manuscript to emphasize what information could be used in translational studies. Specifically, we focused on insights that could lead to the development of a much needed vaccine against the pathogen.

Minor Comments: *"There are a few typos, e.g., line 4 from the bottom in page 3: An essential step in the in colonization; line 4 to line 2 from the bottom in page : bold types for no apparent reasons; line 3 from the bottom in page 11: induced by H. pylori is that is able to... etc."*

Response: We appreciate the reviewer for catching this oversight and changes have been made accordingly in the revised manuscript.

We feel we have responded constructively to all of the comments and valuable suggestions made by the reviewer. The suggestions certainly improved the quality of the manuscript. Again, we are grateful for the insightful comments and advice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Victor Reyes".

Victor E. Reyes, PhD

Professor

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Associate Director, Clinical and Experimental Immunology
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