

July 19, 2014

Dear Editor,



**Title:** Meta-analysis: Is Combination of Tetracycline and Amoxicillin Suitable for *Helicobacter pylori* Infection?

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

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 12044

Thank you for the reviewers' comments concerning our manuscript. These comments are all valuable and have helped us to revise and improve our manuscript. In addition, these comments have improved the significance of our research. We have made careful modifications to the original manuscript based on these comments and suggestions. All of the changes made to the manuscript are highlighted. We hope the new manuscript will meet your journal's standard for publication. The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1. The format has been updated.
2. Revisions have been made according to the suggestions of the reviewers.

Responses to the peer-reviewer (Reviewer code: 2541688)

(1) Comment 1: This study had several inevitable limitations as authors said in articles, for example, some obvious heterogeneity, bias and unpublished data or only abstracts.

Answer: We agree with the comment that there are several limitations in our study. The major limitation is the heterogeneity, especially in the meta-analysis of quadruple therapy. So we performed subgroup analyses and sensitivity analyses to find the reasons of heterogeneity. We performed sensitivity analyses when our unpublished data were included in the meta-analysis of quadruple therapy and the results showed that the impact was little. Additionally, we described the conclusion cautiously and carefully to avoid misleading.

(2) Comment 2: It would be better if the study added cost-benefit analysis of various regimens for eradication of *H. pylori*.

Answer: We fully assent the reviewer's comment, but there is hardly any study supplying the data about cost-benefit analysis among the studies included in our systemic review. So it is difficult to perform the cost-benefit analysis of different regimens for *H. pylori* eradication.

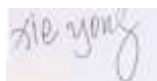
Thank you very much for your comments and suggestions.

3. The abstract has been revised.
4. The major suggestions and comments have been added and considered.

5. The figures have been reformatted.
6. The references and typesetting were corrected.
7. Some contents have been revised in section of "table". It is our negligence the tables' order and contents have few mistakes. We apologize for our negligence. The correct order should be that "table 1" is "Characteristics of Included Studies in Quadruple", and "table2" is "Characteristics of Included Studies in Triple". We also correct and add some contents in table 1, table 2, and table 4.

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

Sincerely yours,

A small, rectangular image showing a handwritten signature in blue ink. The signature appears to be 'Xie Yong' written in a cursive, flowing style.

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