Author's response to reviews

Title: Annual pattern of peptic ulcer hospitalizations: a retrospective analysis of hospital discharge data of the Emilia-Romagna region of Italy.

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Author's response to reviews:

Melissa Norton, MD

Editor-in-Chief, BMC Gastroenterology

Dear Dr. Norton,

I am pleased to submit for peer-review and possible publication in BMC Gastroenterology an original work (research article) entitled: “Annual pattern of peptic ulcer hospitalizations: a retrospective analysis of hospital discharge data of the Emilia-Romagna region of Italy”.

My primary Institution (Azienda USL, Ferrara, Italy) is a BioMed Central member (thus the article-processing charges should be wholly covered by the membership arrangements), but also my secondary Institution (University of Ferrara, Italy) is BioMed Central member too.

The manuscript, as submitted or its essence in another version, is not under consideration for publication elsewhere, and will not be published elsewhere while under consideration by BMC Gastroenterology.
The authors have no commercial associations or sources of support that might pose a conflict of interest. All authors have made substantive contributions to the study, and all authors endorse the data and conclusions.

Anecdotal evidence reports a classical biphasic pattern (Spring-Autumn) for acute peptic ulcer disease (PUD). However, although previous studies have reported seasonal variation in PUD, few large-scale, population-based studies have been conducted. Moreover, this large scale population-based study has been performed by utilizing validated methods of analysis aimed to demonstrate not only raw differences in frequencies, but also rhythmic reproducible temporal patterns of occurrence.

Should this article be of any interest, we are ready to modify, shorten or rearrange the article according to the reviewer’s suggestions.

Looking forward to hearing from you at your convenience, my best personal regards

Sincerely,

Roberto

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