Author’s response to reviews

Title: Do gastrointestinal and respiratory signs and symptoms correlate with the severity of gastroesophageal reflux?

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Minor Essential Revisions

1. The paper is interesting from the clinical point of view, because gastroesophageal reflux is a common cause of various clinical symptoms (typical and atypical) in developmental age and adult patients what is also confirmed by the results obtained by authors who have established the incidence of GER in Turkish children.

2. Examined group of 70 patients was divided into 3 subgroups of patients having gastrointestinal complaints, respiratory complaints, and mixed symptoms (gastrointestinal and respiratory symptoms both).

3. The diagnostic method for GER detection was 24 hour esophageal pH-metry.

4. An important conclusion drawn from the study is that coexistence of gastrointestinal and respiratory symptoms in the patients with GER confirm the severity of reflux.

5. Remarks:
   a. The established incidence of GER in examined subgroups of patients is limited only to those with the acidic GER (pH-metry detected).
   b. In the in the remaining examined subjects who did not show the occurrence of acid reflux the presence of alkaline reflux should be suspected. Combined multichannel intraluminal impedance and pH measurement should be used.
   c. The main conclusion is probably true, although the examined group with mixed GER symptoms is numerically small (6 patients). „The severity of GER“ should be confirmed by application of diagnostic methods of pHmetry, gastroscopy (eosaphagitis?) and nature of the clinical symptoms observed in the patients.
   d. The study should be continued in the future, according to the above remarks, with MI Impedance and pH-metry application.