Author's response to reviews

Title: Clinical Impact of a Gluten-Free Diet on Health-Related Quality of Life in Seven Fibromyalgia Syndrome Patients with Associated Celiac Disease

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Version: 3 Date: 30 July 2013

Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Doctor Chiaroni:

We would like to first thank the Editorial Board and the referees for their interest in the evaluation of our manuscript as well as for their valuable suggestions.

First of all, we have decided to erase from this paper the EudraCT permission, because was obtained later on the onset of this study and we consider that the main objective of this paper is to demonstrate the clinical efficacy only in seven FM+IBS patients with associated celiac disease.

We have also consulted with a professional expert improving the English form of this MS and fully followed his recommendations.

Please find below our answers to referees’ questions.

We want to describe point-by-point all the changes previously titled: “Clinical Impact of a Gluten-Free Diet in Health-Related Quality of Life in Fibromyalgia plus Irritable Bowel Syndrome Patients with Underlying Celiac Disease” that we have introduced in our MS Number: 1082237047992637 following your recommendations and the reviewers comments:

1/. As requested, we have changed the original title into the new one: “Clinical Efficacy of a Gluten-Free Diet on Health Related Quality of Life in Seven Fibromyalgia Syndrome Patients with Associated Celiac Disease”, and the number of words of it is 20 currently.

2/. We introduced some changes in the different sections of the abstract according to the modifications that were made, and its final number of words is 233.
3/. As requested, in page 4 (Introduction), we have added a final paragraph with some explanations about Celiac Disease, and included an appropriate new reference (number 10)

4/. At page 5 we have made a few minor changes in the third paragraph, for a better explanation

5/. At page 6, we also have added some minor changes not affecting the content at the last paragraph

6/. In page 7, we have corrected some typographical and syntax errors in their three paragraphs

7/. At the beginning of page 8, we have included a new paragraph with an enhanced description of the sampling and study method of duodenal biopsies.

8/. At page 9, we have included the description of the 3 tests used for measuring the HR-QoL (FIQ, HAQ and SF-36) as demanded the first reviewer.

9/. At page 10, some rewarding changes have been performed in the first and last paragraphs without affecting the text content

10/. In the Results Section at page 11, we have also included the summary of clinical data of the IBS population, as needed. We have also made several changes for the description of the previous contents of Tables 1 and 2 that have been eliminated, according to referee 1 suggestion

11/. At page 12, we have modified the first paragraph and the last, in the same way

12/. At page 13, we introduced some changes in the two initial paragraphs including some explanations of the content of Figures 1 and 2 (changing also the reference included in the last one)
13/. At page 14, in the second paragraph instead of writing “generally are carriers” we have changed this for “generally carriers”

14/. At page 15, in the last paragraph we have added “of the present trial” and suppressed “these by the noteworthy”

15/. At page 17. In the abbreviated words of HAQ we included “Health”

16/. In the references section, at page 20, we have included the number 10 (new one)

17/. At page 21, we have changed the number and order of two references. They are currently 20 and 21 (previously they were 24 and 25)

18/. At page 24, in the legend of Figure 2, we have changed the previous reference for by the current, number 24

19/. At page 25, we have changed the heading of previously Table 3, for Table 1, as result of suppression of Tables 1 and 2

20/. The actual number of words of the manuscript is now of 3506.

We look forward that, once these changes made, this manuscript is considered of your interest and suitable to be published in BMC Gastroenterology

Yours sincerely.

Prof. Luis Rodrigo MD