Author's response to reviews

Title: High prevalence of Helicobacter pylori Infection in Behcet's Disease

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Version: 3  Date: 25 January 2014

Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor

Thanks for review of the manuscript number (MS: 1701997361035251) on “High prevalence of Helicobacter pylori Infection in Behcet's Disease”.

I would like to thank the reviewers for their comments. In response to the associate editor’s criticism following points could be mentioned:

1. The inclusion criteria for control group was their healthy ness. Specific questions regarding presence of any gastrointestinal compliant and/or previous or current history of gastrointestinal diseases were obtained from control group and any subject with positive history were excluded. So the control as well as study group had no gastrointestinal disease based on self report.

2. I agree that most of the reported prevalence of H. pylori infection were higher form our report. But much of them were form areas with high incidence of gastric cancer (for instance Ardabil, Caspian border cities including Golestan, Babol). Shiraz where the study took place has a lower rate of gastric cancer compared to these areas and probably lower prevalence of H.pylori infection. (Masoompour SM, Yarmohammadi H, Rezaianzadeh A, Lankarani KB. Cancer incidence in southern Iran, 1998–2002: Results of population-based cancer registry. Cancer Epidemiology. 2011;35(5):e42-e7)
The other problem with these studies is that they did not exclude symptomatic patients with gastrointestinal disease.

3. We analyzed the results statistically and the results of our analysis were presented in the manuscript.

4. To have a better estimate of the significance of a finding one may use odds ratio (OR) in addition to p value. Although all significant odds in a confidence interval not including 1 have significant p values of less than 0.05, the reverse is not true. OR usually indicates the effect of size of the sample. (J Can Acad Child Adolesc Psychiatry, 19:3, August 2010)

I have revised the manuscript according to the comments on behalf of all co-authors.

Best Regards

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