Reviewer's report

Title: Oxytocin and cholecystokinin secretion in women with colectomy.

Version: 1 Date: 29 May 2004

Reviewer: PAULUS S. WANG

Reviewer's report:

General

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

1. The physiological role or significance of oxytocin in regulating GI function should be mentioned or discussed in the "Introduction" and/or "Discussion".

2. The current evidence (Fig. 4) was not enough to support a decrease of metabolic clearance of CCK in colectomized women. The level of CCK in human plasma had to be saturated by infusion of CCK before measurement of metabolic clearance rate (MCR).

3. Authors have to design an experiment (e.g. to use CCK receptor blockers) to confirm the source of oxytocin secretion (from brain or GI) following CCK challenge.

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

The poor quality of figures should be improved. (e.g. use different symbols between control and patients or between basal and peak in both Fig. 1 and Fig. 3, and make clear scales over X-axis in both Fig. 2 and Fig. 4; n value should be exposed in each figure.)

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

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What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes

Declaration of competing interests:

None