Reviewer's report

Title: Gastroparesis is associated with oxytocin deficiency, oesophageal dysmotility with hyperCCKemia, and autonomic neuropathy with hypergastrinemia

Version: 1 Date: 20 October 2008

Reviewer: PAULUS S. WANG

Reviewer's report:

General Comments:
The purpose of this study is to investigate if the plasma concentration of oxytocin, cholecystokinin(CCK), gastrin and vasopressin differ between diabetic patients with gastrointestinal(GI) normal function and dysfunction. This is an interesting topic and worthy to publish but it requires minor revisions.

Major Compulsory Revisions:
The length of introduction seems too short. It is known that gastroparesis is one of the best examples of diabetic GI disturbances. However, the reason why the hormone concentrations of plasma in relation to oesophageal dysmotility and autonomic neuropathy were observed was not mentioned. The authors should make a brief statement on the relationship in diabetic GI disturbances. That will make the purpose of the present study more clear.

In this study, authors show that patients with diabetes mellitus and normal gastric emptying have a postprandial promotion in oxytocin secretion. There is no significant difference in postprandial CCK or gastrin secretion in patients with and without delayed gastric emptying. However, in patients with oesophageal dysmotility the basal concentration of CCK tend to be higher, and with autonomic neuropathy the gastrin concentrations were increased.

Minor Essential Revisions
Figure
Page 17, Reference 15, the "et al." should be replaced with the complete author's name.

Page 25, Figure 1C, the gastrin peak group has missed upper

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.