Author's response to reviews

Title: High efficacy in Helicobacter pylori retreatment: seven days with furazolidone, levofloxacin and lansoprazole, in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

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Version: 5 Date: 17 April 2009

Author's response to reviews: see over
RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS
(to version 4)

To referee: Ala I Sharara:

The authors have addressed the raised concerns satisfactorily. The discussion is better articulated although it could still use some editorial changes to ensure proper English and structure.

_We restructured the article, especially the abstract, according the guidelines in: “Writing titles and abstracts for scientific articles”. An experienced translator reviewed the text to ensure proper English._

Minor essential issues:

1. I suggest that the title of the article be changed to: Efficacy of a 7-day course of furazolidone, levofloxacin, and lansoprazole after Failed Helicobacter pylori Eradication

_We changed the article’s title according your suggestion:_

Research Article

Efficacy of a 7-day course of furazolidone, levofloxacin, and lansoprazole after failed _Helicobacter pylori_ eradication.

Jaime Natan Eisig* 1, Fernando Marcuz Silva 1, Ricardo Correa Barbuti 1, Tomás Navarro Rodriguez 1, Peter Malfertheiner 2, Joaquim Prado Pinto de Moraes Filho 1, Schlioma Zaterka 1

2. The authors should avoid stating that the H. pylori in their patients was “resistant” since they did not perform in vitro susceptibility testing. They should instead replace it with persistent. For instance, in the abstract, replace “in patients with resistant H. pylori Infection” by “in patients with persistent H. pylori infection”.

_We changed the text “resistant H. pylori infection” to persistent H. pylori infection” according your suggestion:_

Abstract
**Background:** Increasing resistance to clarithromycin and nitroimidazole is the main cause of failure in the *Helicobacter pylori* eradication. The ideal retreatment regimen remains unclear, especially in developing countries, where the infection presents high prevalence and resistance to antibiotics. The study aimed at determining the efficacy, compliance and adverse effects of a regimen that included furazolidone, levofloxacin and lansoprazole in patients with persistent *Helicobacter pylori* infection, who had failed to respond to at least one prior eradication treatment regimen.

3. It would be helpful to include the following in the results section of the abstract: “Compared to furazolidone-naïve patients, eradication rates were inferior in those who had failed prior furazolidone-containing regimen(s) (74% vs. 100%, p=0.002)”

*We included in results section the data concerning the furazolidone previous use.*

**Results:** Only one of the 48 patients failed to take all medications, which was due to adverse effects (vomiting). Per-protocol and intention-to-treat eradication rates were 89% (95% CI: 89%-99%) and 88% (88-92%), respectively. Mild and moderate adverse effects were reported by 41 patients (85%). For patients with one previous treatment failure, the eradication rate was 100%. Compared to furazolidone-naïve patients, eradication rates were lower in those who had failed prior furazolidone-containing regimen(s) (74% vs. 100%, p=0.002).

*Gratitude for the suggestions,*

*The authors.*