Reviewer's report

Title: Effect of esomeprazole versus placebo on pulmonary exacerbations in cystic fibrosis.

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Reviewer: P. Marco Fisichella

Reviewer's report:

this is well done study on the effects of PPI on exacerbations in patients with CF.

I have minor comments that would strengthen the manuscript. Thse are discretionary, however.

I would suggest to add to the discussion 2 papers whose insights will fit well into the manuscript and will add to the point of the authors:


The conclusions of this study are that omeprazole treatment does not affect the number of reflux episodes or their duration; rather it converts acid reflux to less acid reflux, thus exposing esophagus to altered gastric juice. This is why maybe surgery works better in these patients as illustrated by the authors in the introduction.


This study gives an indication of why lung transplant patients with CF have a significantly higher prevalence and proximal extent of GERD than do other lung transplant recipients. this study suggests that CF patients in particular should be routinely screened for GERD after transplantation to identify those who may benefit from antireflux surgery, especially given the risks of GERD-related aspiration and chronic allograft injury. This is a point to highlight as GERD can be prevented and if PPI won't work, one should figure out other means.

Reference about normal values of pH needs to be attributed to Demeester et al 1975

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable
Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.