Reviewer's report

Title: Proton pump inhibitor-responsive chronic cough without acid reflux: a case report

Version: 5 Date: 25 June 2007

Reviewer: Toni T Kiljander

Comments to authors:

Major comments:

The manuscript has improved markedly, but major changes are still required. Moreover, some editorial work is required to clarify the text.

The manuscript needs to be further shortened and corrected; see attached "rewritten" WORD version.

I agree with the authors that PPI-responsive cough is not the same as cough temporally related with a reflux period. In my opinion this actually is the whole point. Now we have two coughers with esophagitis (i.e. with GERD), in whom coughing is not temporally related with acid reflux period, whose cough relieves with PPI treatment. This is something we already know (PPI's improve cough in GERD patients regardless whether or not it is temporally associated with reflux), and it is up to the editor whether he wants to reproduce this information in his journal. In my opinion, he should not.

If PPIs relieve coughing in GERD patients regardless their relationship with a reflux episode, this in my opinion, diminishes our need for pH monitorings. This should be taken into account in the conclusions.

A recent Cochrane review has still not been referenced.