Reviewer's report

Title: Effects of acotiamide on esophageal motor function and gastroesophageal reflux in healthy volunteers

Version: 2 Date: 31 May 2015

Reviewer: Kei Matsueda

Reviewer's report:

I have reviewed the manuscript entitled “Effect of acotiamide on esophageal motor function and gastroesophageal reflux in healthy volunteers” and my comments are as follows:

Authors adopted cross over protocol in this study, however HRM and MII-pH are the stressful tests and may influence outcome of the second study.

They also did not use placebo, but GI motility could be altered via brain-gut axis.

Therefore, it is better to select parallel-group studies with placebo to eliminate the above mentioned problems and to define the drug efficacy.

Nevertheless, this study was worth to publish because this is the first study showing acotiamide does not enhance esophageal motor functions or prevent GERD events in humans, and the following data may support the author’s conclusions.

Several studies have shown that acotiamide does not enhance gastric emptying in healthy volunteers but enhance in FD patients (1,2). In animal studies, the similar results were reported (3).


2) Zai H et al. Effect of acotiamide on gastric emptying in healthy adult humans.


GER, gastroesophageal reflux was not listed in List of Abbreviations.

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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 have been a speaker and honoraria recipient for Zeria Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd and Astellas Pharma Inc.