

PEER REVIEW HISTORY

BMJ Open publishes all reviews undertaken for accepted manuscripts. Reviewers are asked to complete a checklist review form (<http://bmjopen.bmj.com/site/about/resources/checklist.pdf>) and are provided with free text boxes to elaborate on their assessment. These free text comments are reproduced below.

ARTICLE DETAILS

TITLE (PROVISIONAL)	What is the general Chinese public's awareness of and attitudes towards Helicobacter pylori screening and associated health behaviours? A cross-sectional study
AUTHORS	Wang, Ying-xin; Zou, Jin-yu; Hu, Li-feng; Liu, Qi; Huang, Ruo-lin; Tang, Tian; Yue, Qian-qian; Sun, Ying-xue; Xiao, Qiao; Zeng, Xi; Zeng, Ying

VERSION 1 – REVIEW

REVIEWER	Hiba Barqawi University of Sharjah, Department of Clinical Sciences
REVIEW RETURNED	17-Oct-2021

GENERAL COMMENTS	<p>This manuscript is very interesting as it measures the KAP of the public. The manuscript will be beneficial for the readers if the authors address the following issues:</p> <p>Please have a native English speaker revise the manuscript. Some phrases were unclear such as 'living habit'.</p> <p>Also explain why the public were recruited from health centers and not from public venues</p>
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REVIEWER	Ahmad Bello Ahmadu Bello University, Department of Medicine
REVIEW RETURNED	27-Oct-2021

GENERAL COMMENTS	<p>To make the discussion robust, there is need to look at the level of awareness and attitude towards Hp from similar studies in UK or USA with low prevalence of Hp, and a few from Africa with higher prevalence of Hp than China. Doing so will highlight the level of awareness and attitude towards Hp in your study population.</p> <p>The reviewer provided a marked copy with additional comments. Please contact the publisher for full details.</p>
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REVIEWER	Darko Modun University of Split School of Medicine, Department of Pharmacy
REVIEW RETURNED	17-Nov-2021

GENERAL COMMENTS	<p>This is an interesting and well written manuscript on a matter of H. pylori awareness and attitudes on screening conducted in general population. The methodology of this study is well presented and the results are of interest to a broad readership. I have only few suggestions for the authors:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Line 30 – space is missing before 9412. please update your references in the introduction with articles
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	<p>from this and year 2020 3. add paragraph on the education in general population using published research on this matter</p>
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VERSION 1 – AUTHOR RESPONSE

Reviewer: 1

This manuscript is very interesting as it measures the KAP of the public. The manuscript will be beneficial for the readers if the authors address the following issues:

Reviewer’s Comments: 1.Please have a native English speaker revise the manuscript. Some phrases were unclear such as ‘living habit’.

Author’s Response:

Thank you for this positive comments and we are sorry there were problems with the English. The paper has been carefully revised by a professional language editing service to improve the grammar and readability. In our study, ‘living habit’ refer to WU at al’s article^[1]. In WU at al’s article, the living habit is long-term drinking, long-term smoking, long-term high-fat diet, long-term sweets, long-team seafood, long-term preserved food, long-term coffee, long-term strong tea. And we have adjusted this according language polishing experts (‘lifestyle habit’). –Please see the revision highlighted in red on page 4 line 5.

Reference:

[1] Wu Y, Su T, Zhou X, Lu N, Li Z, Du Y. Awareness and attitudes regarding Helicobacter pylori infection in Chinese physicians and public population: A national cross-sectional survey. Helicobacter. 2020;25(4):e12705.

Reviewer’s Comments: 2.Also explain why the public were recruited from health centers and not from public venues

Author’s Response:

Thank you for this thoughtful comments. In China, community health service center provides public health services such as disease prevention and basic medical services for common ailment, frequently-occurring diseases and chronic diseases for community residents, which has the characteristics of public welfare. Community health education is one of its functions.

With the support of community health service centers and community workers, we hold free health lectures to residents in community health service centers and do free clinics such as testing blood pressure and blood glucose. It is more feasible to recruit subjects in this form than to recruit subjects alone.

Reviewer: 2

Reviewer’s Comments:1.See file attached.

Provide the type of scheme or classification used in determining who falls into low, middle or high income , with reference.

Author's Response:

Thank you for your valuable comment and careful revision. We divide the average monthly income into <3000 Yuan, 3000-5000 Yuan, 5000-10000 Yuan, ≥10000 Yuan^[1]. Define monthly average income <3000 Yuan as low income^[2]. We have added references in manuscripts.

Please see the revision highlighted in red on page 7 line 7.

Reference:

[1] Pan Y, Chen R, Li Z, Li H, Zhao X, Liu L, Wang C, Wang Y, Wang Y. Socioeconomic Status and the Quality of Acute Stroke Care: The China National Stroke Registry. *Stroke*. 2016 Nov;47(11):2836-2842. doi: 10.1161/STROKEAHA.116.013292. Epub 2016 Oct 6. PMID: 27758939.

[2] Li J, Qiu J, Lv L, Mao B, Huang L, Yang T, Wang C, Liu Q. Paternal factors and adverse birth outcomes in Lanzhou, China. *BMC Pregnancy Childbirth*. 2021 Jan 6;21(1):19. doi: 10.1186/s12884-020-03492-9. PMID: 33407234; PMCID: PMC7789361.

Reviewer's Comments: 2.To make the discussion robust, there is need to look at the level of awareness and attitude towards Hp from similar studies in UK or USA with low prevalence of Hp, and a few from Africa with higher prevalence of Hp than China. Doing so will highlight the level of awareness and attitude towards Hp in your study population.

Author's Response:

Thank you for your valuable comment. Because of the research on the knowledge of HP in general population is few now, we added the information as following :

“In a survey conducted in the United Arab Emirates, only 24.6% had heard of HP.” —Please see the revision highlighted in red on page 17 line 15-16.

“In contrast, in a Singapore-based survey, where HP prevalence is low, 60% believed that gastropathy is associated with HP and 82.9% believed that the stomach is the site of HP infection.” —Please see the revision highlighted in red on page 17 line 21-23.

“A Ethiopia-based meta-analysis suggested that Ethiopia's decreasing trend in HP infections from 1990 to 2017 was related to relative improvements in public lifestyle and behavioural changes, as well as increased awareness of the transmission, diagnosis, eradication, prevention, and control of HP infection.” —Please see the revision highlighted in red on page 18 line 6-10.

Reviewer: 3

This is an interesting and well written manuscript on a matter of H. pylori awareness and attitudes on screening conducted in general population. The methodology of this study is well presented and the results are of interest to a broad readership. I have only few suggestions for the authors:

Reviewer's Comments:1. Line 30 – space is missing before 941

Author's Response:

Thank you for pointing this missing information. We have added the space.

Please see the added information on page 2 line 20-21 .

Reviewer's Comments:2. please update your references in the introduction with articles from this and year 2020

Author's Response:

Comment one

Thanks for your valuable suggestions. After receiving your comments, we have tried to update the references to the latest. Because of the research on the knowledge of HP in general population is few now, some of the research is important support for our research and is hard for us to find the replacement.

Please see the updated reference highlighted in red on page 24-25.

Reviewer's Comments:3. add paragraph on the education in general population using published research on this matter

Author's Response:

Thank you for your valuable comment. According to the comment, we added the information as "Studies have mentioned that it is necessary to strengthen the general population's knowledge of HP infection. In a qualitative study on the relationship between GC and HP infection, participants voiced a strong desire for more, holistic, health education. Such education can be provided by hanging posters in popular places, through social media, and through medical workers."

Please see the added information highlighted in red on page 18 line 21-26.

Reviewer: 4

Reviewer's Comments:Manuscript is well organized as it is a cross sectional study whereby attention is driven towards health issues relatable to a numerically dominant gastric microorganism H.Pylori. I suggest to stick to uniform nomenclature either HP or H.Pylori.

Author's Response:

Thank you for this positive comments and we have unified the name with HP in the manuscripts.

VERSION 2 – REVIEW

REVIEWER	Darko Modun University of Split School of Medicine, Department of Pharmacy
REVIEW RETURNED	04-Jan-2022
GENERAL COMMENTS	The authors have revised the manuscript according to my comments. Therefore, I believe this manuscript is now suitable for publication.