PEER REVIEW HISTORY

ARTICLE DETAILS

TITLE (PROVISIONAL)	A panel of serum biomarkers (GastroPanel) in diagnosis of atrophic gastritis and helicobacter pylori infection: a protocol of systematic review and meta-analysis
AUTHORS	Wu, Dan; Shi, Anya; Wang, Haiping; Yu, Xiuzhong

VERSION 1 – REVIEW

REVIEWER	Lahner, Edith Universita degli Studi di Roma La Sapienza Dipartimento di Scienze Medico-Chirurgiche e Medicina Translazionale
REVIEW RETURNED	29-Apr-2022

GENERAL COMMENTS	The study protocol is clearly presented and written and includes all important single elements which are required. In the para Data synthesis ad analysis there are a couple of sentences in the past imperfect.

REVIEWER	Bello, Ahmad Ahmadu Bello University, Department of Medicine
REVIEW RETURNED	07-Jul-2022

GENERAL COMMENTS	This is a very interesting study, and when completed it is our hope that the study will bring to an end the controversies surrounding the gastro panel tool. In your data extraction and management section you made mention of only Proton pump inhibitors, however several others equally affect Hp identification and gastro panel interpretation such as the following 1. recent antibiotic ingestion 2. Alcohol ingestion 3. Bile salts 4. Time lag between taking the samples and analysis 5. whether the samples were transported to a lab for analysis, and under what conditions. The above affect the interpretation of the results. Finally, you may wish to accept the corrections to the protocol presented in the accompanying word attachment.

VERSION 1 – AUTHOR RESPONSE

Reviewer: 1
1. The study protocol is clearly presented and written and includes all important single elements which are required.
Response: Thank you.

2. In the para Data synthesis ad analysis there are a couple of sentences in the past imperfect.
Response: Thanks for your comments. We corrected it accordingly in the revised manuscript. (line 244-247, Page 11).

Reviewer: 2
1. This is a very interesting study, and when completed it is our hope that the study will bring to an end the controversies surrounding the gastro panel tool.
Response: Thank you.

2. In your data extraction and management section you made mention of only Proton pump inhibitors, however several others equally affect Hp identification and gastro panel interpretation such as the following
1. recent antibiotic ingestion
2. Alcohol ingestion
3. Bile salts
4. Time lag between taking the samples and analysis
5. whether the samples were transported to a lab for analysis, and under what conditions.
The above affect the interpretation of the results.
Response: Thanks for your suggestion. We corrected it accordingly in the revised manuscript. (line 216-221, Page 10).

3. Finally, you may wish to accept the corrections to the protocol presented in the accompanying word attachment.
Response: Many thanks for your corrections. we accepted all your corrections and revised them in the revised manuscript.

VERSION 2 – REVIEW

REVIEWER	Bello, Ahmad
	Ahmadu Bello University, Department of Medicine
REVIEW RETURNED	03-Sep-2022

GENERAL COMMENTS	All the issues were adequately addressed by the authors, however only minor corrections as follows:
	1. Line 99, Substitute the sentence (Urea breath test have to make it have high diagnostic accuracy) with (Urea breath test has high diagnostic accuracy)
	2. In line 287, Delete the word "with" which came after heterogeneity (Secondly, there may be heterogeneity with because this test combines four biomarkers which have different evaluation criteria)

Reviewer: 2

All the issues were adequately addressed by the authors, however only minor corrections as follows:

1. Line 99, Substitute the sentence (Urea breath test have to make it have high diagnostic accuracy) with (Urea breath test has high diagnostic accuracy)

Response: Thanks for your suggestion. We corrected it accordingly in the revised manuscript, reads:

"Urea breath tests has high diagnostic accuracy while serology and stool antigen tests were less accurate." *(line 99-100, Page 5)*.

2. In line 287, Delete the word "with" which came after heterogeneity (Secondly, there may be heterogeneity with because this test combines four biomarkers which have different evaluation criteria)

Response: Thanks for your suggestion. We corrected it accordingly in the revised manuscript, reads:

"Secondly, there may be heterogeneity because this test combines four biomarkers which have different evaluation criteria." *(line 286-287, Page 12)*.