

October 15, 2016

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name 29246-review.doc).

Title: Risk factors of admission for acute colonic diverticulitis in a population-based cohort study: the HUNT Study, Norway

Authors: Aras Jamal Talabani, Stian Lydersen, Eivind Ness-Jensen, Birger Henning Endreseth, Tom-Harald Edna

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 29246

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of the reviewer:

(1) Reviewer 00071727

*Comment 1: Authors stated that rates of diverticulitis increase with age it's worth noting, however, that the age below 50 years represents a risk factor recognized for recurrence of diverticulitis. Moreover, literature has reported an increase in the incidence of acute diverticulitis among younger patients: In a large review of the Nationwide Inpatient Sample (NIS) of 267,000 admissions for AD between 1998 and 2005 incidence rates increased most dramatically in 18- to 44-year-olds and 45- to 64-year-olds, while they remained stable in 65 to 74-year-olds and actually decreased in persons 75 years of age or older.(1) Authors should therefore subdivide the population in at least 3 age groups (e.g.: < 50 years, 50-70 years, > 70 years) and, furthermore, investigate by univariate and multivariate analysis each subset of age-range of patients in order to be compared. If differences will arise they should be commented according to literature data (2). 1) Etzioni DA, Mack TM, Beart RW (2009) Diverticulitis in the United States: 1998–2005: changing patterns of disease and treatment. *Ann Surg* 249:210–217 2) Binda G.A , R. Cuomo R, Laghi A. et al. Practice parameters for the treatment of colonic diverticular disease: Italian*

Society of Colon and Rectal Surgery (SICCR) guidelines Tech Coloproctol. 2015 ;19:615-26. doi: 10.1007/s10151-015-1370-x

Response:

Comment 1: The point the reviewer makes is interesting. Accordingly we subdivided the population in 3 age groups (<50 years, 50-70 years, >70 years) and furthermore investigated by univariable and multivariable analysis each subset of age-range of patients in order to be compared. Significant differences did not arise compared to the results presented in first manuscript, which used age as a continuous variable in the analyses. In the revised manuscript, the variable age is categorized in the groups suggested by the reviewer. In subgroup-analyses of each subgroup of age-range, the results were substantially the same as in the main multivariable analysis.

I hope this revision are in accordance with the suggestions made. I will upload the revised version immediately, and I hope you will consider publication of the manuscript.

Sincerely yours,


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