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Salerno, 30th April 2020

To the Distinguished Editor-in-Chief of

WORLD JOURNAL OF GASTROENTEROLOGY

Dear Editor,

Re: manuscript World Journal of Gastroenterology 53869 **Title:** ANHEDONIA AND UPPER GASTROINTESTINAL SYMPTOMS IN OBESE PATIENTS WITH AND WITHOUT BARIATRIC SURGERY: relationship with eating behaviour.

Thank you for your kind e-mail of April 25th, 2020. We have read with interest your comments and those of the Reviewer concerning our paper. We are very pleased to resubmit a revised version of our manuscript accordingly in the hope you will now find it acceptable for publication in your prestigious Journal.

Please find attached with this a letter responding to the points raised by the Reviewer, a revised copy of our manuscript with changes underlined.

REVIEWER #1

“I read with interest the MS "ANHEDONIA AND UPPER GASTROINTESTINAL SYMPTOMS IN OBESE PATIENTS WITH AND WITHOUT BARIATRIC SURGERY: relationship with eating behaviour" by Santonicola A and coworkers. It is a well designed retrospective trial on a demanding issue. I have a couple of minor suggestions: a) I acknowledge it is a retrospective trial. However, I would like to have the discussion shortened to add the Authors's speculation aboutn a clinical issue: considering the study data should we consider a biopsycological approach in any obese patient consulting for dyspepsia or simply manage the symptoms?, b) for sake of clarity, a table of the Rome IV criteria would be better added”

We are grateful for the reviewer's comments and suggestion.

We shortened the discussion according to reviewer's suggestions and added the speculation requested Pg13 In 20 – Pg 14 ln 10; moreover we added the Table 5 to illustrate the Rome IV Criteria for Functional Dyspepsia as Reviewer suggested.

SCIENCE EDITOR

“ The manuscript describes a case control study of the anhedonia and upper gastrointestinal symptoms in bariatric patients. The topic is within the scope of the WJG. (1) Classification: Grade B; (2) Summary of the Peer-Review Report: Reviewer#00001787 thinks this is a well-designed retrospective trial on a demanding issue. The reviewer gives some minor suggestions:1) suggest the authors to short the discussion section; 2) for sake of clarity, a table of the Rome IV criteria would be better added; and (3) Format: There are 4 tables and 3 figures. A total of 46 references are cited, including 9 references published in the last 3 years. There are 4 self-citations. 2 Language evaluation: Classification: Grade B. The authors provided a personal language certificate. 3 Academic norms and rules: The authors provided the Biostatistics Review Certificate, the signed Conflict-of-Interest Disclosure Form and Copyright License Agreement, and the Institutional Review Board Approval Form, and informed consent. The authors need to add the page numbers in the STROBE form.”

We appreciated the Science Editor's comments and suggestions. We enclosed to this letter an update version of the manuscript; moreover we added the page numbers in STROBE form as Science Editor suggested

“No academic misconduct was found in the CrossCheck detection and Bing search. 4 Supplementary comments: This is an invited manuscript. The study is without financial support. The topic has not previously been published in the WJG. The corresponding author has not published articles in the BPG. 5 Issues raised: (1) I found there is no “Author contribution” section. Please provide the author contributions;”

The Editor is correct. We provided the author contributions

“ I found the authors did not provide the original figures. Please provide the original figure documents. Please prepare and arrange the figures using PowerPoint to ensure that all graphs or arrows or text portions can be reprocessed by the editor;”

The Editor is correct. We added the original figures using Powerpoint as suggested

“I found the authors did not write the “article highlight” section. Please write the “article highlights” section at the end of the main text.”

We thank the Science Editor. As suggested, we wrote “article highlights” section.

Moreover, as requested, we provided an audio core tip.

EDITORIAL OFFICE EDITOR

“I have checked the comments written by the science editor.”

We have a deep appreciation for Editor’s careful reading.

I look forward to hearing from you,

I send my best regards.

Sincerely,

Paola Iovino

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