

Review of: "Oscillating Esophageal Acid Sensitivity in Symptomatic Reflux Hypersensitivity and Functional Heartburn"

Yirupaiahgari Viswanath

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This is a well written article, has further segmented understanding of various GERD phenotypes. The results show that the probability of symptoms are higher with reduced acid exposure values and demonstrate the variability of the oesophageal acid sensitivity and its relation with symptoms. Authors have concluded that all three phenotypes of symptomatic GERD (Lyon consensus) carry similar characteristics. Although these findings contradict the established understanding, I would like to extend my congratulations for interrogating this question and presenting through this research.

Moreover, there are several limitations as it has been well highlighted in the article. A few amongst these include study sensitivity and symptom relationship with non-acid reflux with bile, gas and other gastric contents. The lack of causal explanation to this fluctuating and variable esophageal acid sensitivity is important to note and has been highlighted. Assuming in all studied subjects had no reflux esophagitis on endoscopy, it would be more interesting that they had any esophageal biopsies or not, where in some patients do reveal microscopic inflammatory changes. Presence or absence of these findings in the studied patients along with correlating symptoms with mucosal impedance (MI) further add clarity. A prospective study with better methodology, would unravel these interesting findings and foster our understanding with GERD pathophysiology.