Reply to Reviewers:

Reviewer1: (SS)

1- Patients who received PPI or antibiotics in the last four weeks should be excluded according to exclusion criteria and the history of H. Pylori eradication.

***Reply:*** We have updated the exclusion criteria in the methods section.

2- If available, more details about endoscopic description and scoring gastric mucosal lesions are needed.

***Reply:*** All collected data were stated in the manuscript.

Reviewer 2: (BM)

Check the uploaded file.

***Reply:*** We checked comment section and updated reply to them.

Reviewer3: (TG)

1. This is an experimental cross-sectional study, not observational, as you had done endoscopy for asymptomatic pts.

***Reply:*** We corrected the type of the study from observational to experimental, as we performed endoscopy for asymptomatic patients, and clarified the rationale and ethical approval for this procedure in the introduction and methods sections.

1. How do you find stage 1 and 2 CKD pts? They almost did not present with any complaints and said they were not complaining of GI symptoms. Our reply: We depended on eGFR to determine CKD stages1 and 2 among attendants to internal medicine OPD.

***Reply:*** We explained how we identified and recruited patients with stage 1 and 2 CKD based on their estimated glomerular filtration rate and their attendance to the internal medicine outpatient department in the methods section.

1. How did you exclude anemia related to the female menstrual cycle without GI symptoms? Our reply: We excluded patients with active bleeding in the last year before the study including non-GIT causes.

***Reply:*** We updated the methods section as all patients with a history of active bleeding in the last year were excluded.

2- ‎Editor Comments to Author:

1. Please check the author names and affiliations included on your Title Page, mainly that the spelling of all authors’ names is correct. They are cited in the order you wish them to appear in the final article. In addition, each author’s affiliation details are correct. Our reply: we checked and confirmed correct data in title page.

***Reply:*** We checked and confirmed the correct spelling and affiliation of all authors and their order of appearance in the title page.

1. Please include a ‘Structured Abstract’: not more than 250 words, broken down into, i.e., Aims, Patients & Methods/Materials & Methods, Results, and Conclusions. For authors presenting the results of clinical trials, the guidelines recommended by CONSORT should be followed when writing the abstract (<http://www.consort-statement.org/>), and the clinical trial registration number should be included at the end of the abstract, where available.

***Reply:*** We rewrote the abstract following the structured format recommended by the CONSORT guidelines and included the clinical trial registration number at the end of the abstract.

1. Please include up to 10 keywords in your revised manuscript (including the four keywords you selected as part of the submission process).

***Reply:*** We included up to 10 keywords in the revised manuscript, covering the main concepts and terms related to our study.

1. Please amend the references as per the author’s guidelines

a. References should be numerically listed in the reference section in the order they occur in the text.

b. References should appear as a number, i.e., [1, 2] in the text.

c. References should cite three authors et al.: It is our house style to list a maximum of six authors, and if there is more than this, three authors et al.

***Reply:*** We amended the references according to the journal’s guidelines, using numerical citations in the text and listing the references in the order they appear in the text. We also cited three authors et al. for references with more than six authors.5. Please ensure all tables and boxes are titled and cited in the text. Three-line tables are preferred. Our reply: all tables and boxes were cited in the text.

6. Please add the scale bar, annotations, magnifications, and program that generated these figures. Also, it is better to submit figures with high resolution and brightness.

***Reply:*** We improved the resolution and brightness of the figures and submitted them as separate files.