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Thiol Levels and Gastrointestinal Diseases

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Dear Editor,

We would like to thank I. Yuksel for his interest, great enthusiasm, and scrutinizing accuracy of our review article [1]. We agree with most of the statements in his letter. We congratulate him for being able to monitor thiol levels in patients with gastrointestinal

diseases. At the same time, we would like to draw his attention to two points. First, the most relevant measurements would be extremely difficult to make because these are the levels of thiols in the cells of specific types in the gastrointestinal canal. It is these levels that may correlate with the disease rather than the global levels. Second, certain antioxidants may trigger antioxidant pathways that indirectly alter the thiol levels. Understanding these pathways is highly relevant to comprehending the roles of antioxidant supplements in gastrointestinal diseases.

Reference

- 1 Khan I, Samson SE, Grover AK: Antioxidant supplements and gastrointestinal diseases: a critical appraisal. Med Princ Pract 2017;26:201–217.