

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS



June 1st, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 2429-review.doc).

Title: Lean-NAFLD increases risk for metabolic disorders in a normal weight Chinese population.

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Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 10536

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

1 Format has been updated

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

- (1) Thanks for your valuable suggestion on our study. According to your advices, the discussion has been revised and includes content on gut milieu interplay. It plays an important role in development in NAFLD and perhaps it is a unique factor in progress of lean patients. It is a valuable suggestion in our further explore for etiology of lean-NAFLD.
- (2) It is my great pleasure to show my hearty thanks to you for your careful evaluation. This study reflects the importance role of lean-NAFLD in development of metabolic disorders, although study population is only a part of northern population. We will do more epidemiological investigations and make it more clear, including metabolic characteristics, association with diseases and etiology.
- (3) We feel deeply indebted to you for your conscientious comments. It is true that there were studies on association between NAFLD and metabolic diseases. But they did not distinguish lean-NAFLD and overweight-obese-NAFLD, and compared their associations with metabolic diseases and emphasize the harm of NAFLD on metabolic disorders in normal weight individuals. We also compared the blood cell accounts in lean- and overweight-obese-NAFLD, explaining the pathological changes of NAFLD. In discussion, the established risk factors for metabolic diseases in NAFLD were all mentioned. Furthermore, we put more emphasis on liver enzymes to diseases, which is an important marker of NAFLD. Thus, the association between NAFLD and metabolic diseases may be explained more comprehensively. We further discuss the possible pathogenesis of NAFLD. All these were all contributed to a more in-depth understanding of NAFLD, especially lean-NAFLD and provide more information on researches of other experts.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Changhao Sun'.

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