

## Biostatistics statement

The Editor,

World Journal of Methodology

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Re:** Review of Statistical Methods

I have carefully reviewed the entire manuscript titled “Early probiotics to prevent childhood metabolic syndrome - a systematic review”, by H. Balasubramanian and S. Patole. The authors have conducted a comprehensive systematic review of the literature addressing the issue of probiotic supplementation to prevent childhood metabolic syndrome. Two RCTs were considered eligible for inclusion. The authors appropriately did not pool the results of those two RCTs in view of significant clinical heterogeneity. I am satisfied with the fact that there was no need for statistical analysis of the data.

Yours sincerely

A/Prof Shripada Rao, MBBS, FRACP, MSc, Biostatistics (Newcastle University, Australia),

Princess Margaret Hospital for Children, Perth, Western Australia

Tel: 93408672, Email: [Shripada.Rao@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:Shripada.Rao@health.wa.gov.au)