

**Manuscript NO: 33388**

Dear Dr. Ya-Juan Ma:

Please find enclosed our re-revised paper entitled “*Lactobacillus acidophilus* alleviates pouchitis after ileal pouch–anal anastomosis in rats”. We really value this chance to improve our article and have revised the text based on the reviewers’ comments and suggestions. We have enclosed PDF file of the revised manuscript with all changes Red Mark, as well as a file containing publication-quality figures. We thank the reviewers for the constructive comments, and hope that our revisions have resulted in a manuscript that is now satisfactory for publication in *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

The following are point-by-point replies to the reviewers’ comments regarding our submitted paper revision.

**Answers to Reviewers’ comments**

Question 1: Introduction is synthesizing well the current knowledge in this area, although I would expect a little more information about the relevance of (IL)-1 $\beta$ , IL-6, tumor necrosis factor (TNF)- $\alpha$  and IL-10 in this context.

**Answer:** We appreciate the reviewer’s comment. More information about the relevance of (IL)-1 $\beta$ , IL-6, tumor necrosis factor (TNF)- $\alpha$  and IL-10 have been added

in the introduction section of this manuscript.

Question 2: The total number of animals used is missing in Animals Section (it is presented in the next section though).

**Answer:** We are sorry for unclear expression. The total number of animals used was 18, and we have been replenished it in Animals Section of this manuscript.

Question 3: Discussion section: I have the same feeling as in Introduction, that the authors are not presenting sufficient background data to support their fine results from this report. Also some oxidative stress related to inflammation studies could be presented and discussed here, in the context of this study.

**Answer:** The reviewer's comment is well taken. We have been added some research background to support our results in this study. Through consult relevant literature, oxidative stress related to inflammation studies have been presented and discussed in our discussion section.

We are grateful for the critical reviews, positive comments and constructive suggestions from the reviewers, and believe that all the suggestions and our corresponding revisions have significantly improved the manuscript. We hope that you will reconsider our revised manuscript for publication in *World Journal of*

*Gastroenterology.*

Sincerely,

Gang Liu, MD, PhD

Department of General Surgery

Tianjin Medical University General Hospital

Tianjin 300052, China