



**Baishideng
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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 40598

Title: Focus on the Gut-Brain Axis: Multiple Sclerosis, the Intestinal Barrier and the Microbiome

Reviewer's code: 01468021

Reviewer's country: United States

Science editor: Ze-Mao Gong

Date sent for review: 2018-07-05

Date reviewed: 2018-07-08

Review time: 3 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Very nice review. A few comments: 1. A failure to replicate animal data in man has been so common in microbiome studies that it has really questioned the validity of animal models or, at the very least, exposed their limitations. 2. How about impact of



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microbiome and interventions that modulate same on GI symptoms in MS 3. Your statements about probiotics in UC are a bit contradictory; early in the piece you suggest that they do not work but later allude to some positive studies. Of relevance to MS where, like UC, the phenotype is varied, some very carefully defined UC subgroups do seem to do well on probiotics. 4. Confounders, including GI conditions, such as constipation; common in MS, as well as diet which may be altered in MS, have a major impact on the microbiome. These may not have been accounted for in prior studies. 5. The limitations of many studies in terms of methodology - 16S vs metagenomics and metabolomics, choice of primers, DNA isolation etc. deserve mention.

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

Google Search:

- The same title
- Duplicate publication
- Plagiarism
- No

BPG Search:

- The same title
- Duplicate publication
- Plagiarism
- No



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Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 40598

Title: Focus on the Gut-Brain Axis: Multiple Sclerosis, the Intestinal Barrier and the Microbiome

Reviewer's code: 00055194

Reviewer's country: Spain

Science editor: Ze-Mao Gong

Date sent for review: 2018-07-10

Date reviewed: 2018-07-21

Review time: 11 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

I consider the manuscript publishable in its current form

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT



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