

## ANSWERING REVIEWERS



November 20, 2013

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 5843-review.doc).

**Title:** Effectiveness of acupuncture to treat irritable bowel syndrome: A meta-analysis

**Author:** Chao guanqun, Zhang shuo

**Name of Journal:** *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 5843

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) [00004594]Thank you very much for your review. I have suppressed “usually in the lower abdomen”. I have talked about “IBS is due to a perturbation of the brain-gut axis.” in second paragraph. I have replaced “And inspite” by “Despite”. I have replaced “we did meta-analysis” by “we performed a meta-analysis”. I have changed “All analysis were performed using STATA...” . I have changed “In many researched” to “In many studies”. I have changed “Thirdly, because assessment of improvement was not the same and note detailed...” .

(2) [02483407]Thank you very much for your review. The English has been revised by professional English language editing companies. I think it is clear for the readers to understand to put figure 4 and 5 in the article. And they can be deleted also. I have discussed “the spontaneous remission of symptoms, the potential placebo effects of acupuncture that should not be despised, the possible neurological physiology of IBS” in Discussion. I have dicussed “Although the results suggest a benefit of acupuncture, the authors must make clear that there is insufficient data to recommend the method as first-line treatment. Moreover, there is insufficient data to know about long-term results” in the last paragraph.

(3) [02442330]Thank you very much for your review. I have added pathophysiology of IBS in introduction. I have put different statements about IBS prevalence in the introduction and in the discussion together. It is a very good idea to analysis subgroup. I will perform this idea in the future analysis. Thanks a lot!

3 References and typesetting were corrected.

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

Sincerely yours,

Zhang shuo: M.D.  
Department of Gastroenterology,  
The First Affiliated Hospital,  
Zhejiang Chinese Medicine University  
Hangzhou Youdian Road No. 54, 310006, China  
e-mail: zhangshuo@medmail.com.cn  
Fax: +86-571-87608001