

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Dermatology

**Manuscript NO:** 60152

**Title:** Fecal microbiota transplant and dermatologic disorders: A retrospective cohort study assessing the gut microbiome's role in skin disease

**Reviewer's code:** 03661119

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** PhD

**Professional title:** Professor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** China

**Author's Country/Territory:** United States

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-10-19

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2020-10-21 05:59

**Reviewer performed review:** 2020-10-28 09:15

**Review time:** 7 Days and 3 Hours

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <b>Scientific quality</b>       | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good<br><input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish            |
| <b>Language quality</b>         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing<br><input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection |
| <b>Conclusion</b>               | <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection             |
| <b>Re-review</b>                | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No   |
| <b>Peer-reviewer statements</b> | Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous<br>Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No   |



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#### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

The authors conducted a retrospective cohort study to address the relationship between FMT and skin diseases. The study could lead to significant findings and clinical application. However, as an exploratory study, a negative result adds little to our current knowledge. Major problems with the study are: 1. Lack of control. What can you find if you look at the skin conditions of a control group without FMT within the same time frame? The stool donors and the stool preparations also need to be controlled. 2. Small sample size. The result might be different if you look at more patients. 3. Too many confounding factors. The inclusion/exclusion criteria were loosely defined. Diet, drugs, occupations, close contacts/family members, ... can all have potential influences.