

## **Response to reviewer comment for article ID64313**

### **„How can probiotic improve IBS symptoms? „**

5 Issues raised:

(1) The authors did not provide original pictures. Please provide the original figure documents.

**Our answer:** *We apologize for the error. The figures are now placed in separate ppt slides and can be reprocessed by the editor.*

(2) Please obtain permission for the use of picture(s).

**Our answer:** *Permission for the use of picture (s) is attached and apologies for the omission. We understand how to properly cite the published or copyrighted pictures.*

Reviewer1.

This manuscript is an opinion review that well focuses on the statu quo of the overall research in the field of probiotic and IBS. The Authors highlight the most important research topics, the problems that have now been resolved and remain to be resolved, and the future research directions that may maximize the practical impact on the field of IBS and probiotics. The manuscript is an essay in which the author discusses this core issue in a reasonable and thorough manner. In the core tip the Authors suggest the need to design a clinical study where the IBS subgroups are initially defined to understand if all IBS subtypes are treatable with the same probiotic or combination of probiotics. In the conclusion set however The Authors seem to suggest that such a type of study is quite not feasible at the moment. May be this issue could be more deeply discussed to avoid denying what the core tip stated.

**Our answer:** *Thanks for the good comments. In conclusion, we stated that certain probiotics should be applied to a separate subgroup of IBS and thus research should be formed in the same manner. We state that the most common reasons why there is a small number of such studies are the small number of respondents suffering from a particular subgroup of IBS. What is not feasible at the moment is an approach to research in which one probiotic or multispecies probiotic is applied to all subgroups of IBS. We corrected the comments in the conclusion.*

Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)

**Our answer:** *The paper was additionally reviewed and minor errors were corrected (marked in the text).*

Reviewer 2.

Thanks to the authors for the extensive review about IBS and probiotics. The manuscript cites appropriately the latest and important references. I do not have any criticism.

**Our answer:** *Thanks for the excellent comments.*