

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Clinical Cases

Manuscript NO: 67649

Title: CLINICAL EFFECTIVENESS OF ADDING PROBIOTIC TO A LOW FODMAP DIET: RANDOMIZED DOUBLE-BLIND PLACEBO-CONTROLLED STUDY

Reviewer's code: 02508010

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Taiwan

Author's Country/Territory: Turkey

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Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

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 Grade E: Do not publish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

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Reviewer comment The manuscript reported an original paper in title “Clinical effectiveness of adding probiotic to a low FODMAP diet: randomized double-blind placebo-controlled study”. The authors aimed to evaluate the effectiveness of adding probiotics to a low FODMAP diet to control the symptoms in patients with IBS. They concluded that the low FODMAP diet is beneficial to symptoms of all subtypes of IBS. Adding probiotics to a low FODMAP diet does not make an additional contribution to symptom response and adherence to the diet. This article is a well-designed, and clear writing paper. However, some criticisms are listed below. The major comments 1. This paper is a randomized double-blind placebo-controlled trial. It is a comprehensive and detail study but the conclusion disclosing that adding probiotics to a low FODMAP diet does not superior to low FODMAP diet only for symptoms improvement and diet adherence needs to be careful. It is questionable that are the probiotics used in the trial beneficial to the IBS? The used probiotics should be not represented all of the probiotics. 2. As mentioned in the discussion section, there is no data regarding the gut microbiota changes in the intervention and control groups. It misses the chance to discover the mechanism of FODMAP diet can improve the IBS symptoms. 3. As stress can trigger or aggregate the IBS symptoms, there are no data concerning about the stress condition in both groups. The minor comments 1. The entire text esp. in the Discussion section is too redundant, please concise in the revision. 2. It needs a native English editor to improve the English writing. 3. Please add units in the Table 1. 4. For the Kappa evaluation for changes in stool shape, “it was found that there were significant changes in both groups.” However, in Table 7, the Kappa is 0.061 and $P = 0.448$. Is it significant in Group 1?