

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 66080

**Title:** Gut bless you: the microbiota-gut-brain axis in irritable bowel syndrome

**Provenance and peer review:** Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 05232520

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** BSc, MSc, PhD

**Professional title:** Professor, Research Scientist

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

**Author's Country/Territory:** Norway

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-04-17

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-05-02 00:27

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-05-04 12:29

**Review time:** 2 Days and 12 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <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 Grade E: Do not publish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 <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 type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer</b>	Peer-Review: <input type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Onymous

statements

Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript submitted by Hillestead and cols., aims to review and discuss the role of gut microbiota per se besides therapies aiming at modulating this microbial environment in IBS. In general, the text is well written and structured. Further, the review presents a broad and in-depth critical analysis of data besides debating pros and cons of microbial modulation in IBS. Major concerns:

- Aside the difficulties of defining a microbiota as healthy or diseased, there are some aspects broadly accepted in this regard, especially concerning gut microbial ecology: resilience, resistance and diversity. Thus, authors must add this information to the text and describe the importance of each aspect in healthy and disease status.
- In general, authors used the term “microbiome” to refer to “microbiota”, though similar, it is important to highlight that they don’t refer to the same thing. On one hand, microbiome is related to a set of microbial genes within a specific population, on the other hand, microbiota refers to a group of microorganisms inhabiting a specific ecological niche.