

The First Affiliated Hospital of Ningbo University
Ningbo, Zhengjiang, 315100, China
Tel: + 86-18857480490
E-mail: fyxuanrongrong@nbu.edu.cn

Dear Editor:

Thank you for your comments concerning our manuscript entitle “**Expression and clinical significance of short-chain fatty acids in patients with intrahepatic cholestasis of pregnancy**” (ID: 89811).

These comments were all valuable, and they were very helpful for revising and improving our paper and for highlighting the significance of our research. We have studied the comments carefully and have made corrections that we hope meet with approval.

Response to Science Editor’s Comments:

1. Response to comment:

The overall content is informative, well-researched, and evidence-based. However, there are several areas need some revision: (1) The manuscript should be polished by native English Speaker; and (2) Typographical errors need to be corrected.

Response:

We apologize for the poor language of our manuscript. We worked on the manuscript for a long time and the repeated addition and removal of sentences and sections obviously led to poor readability. We have now worked on both language and readability and have also involved native English speakers for language corrections. And we provided the English Language Certificate issued by a professional English language editing company in the re-submitted files. We really hope that the flow and language level have been substantially improved.

2. Response to comment:

Academic norms and rules:

(1) Please provide the primary version (PDF) of the Informed Consent Form that has been signed by all subjects and investigators of the study, prepared in the official language of the authors' country.

(2) Please provide the STROBE statement.

(3) Please provide the Biostatistics Review Certificate.

(4) Please provide the filled conflict-of-interest disclosure form.

Response:

We think this is an excellent suggestion. We have provided the Informed Consent Form, STROBE statement, Biostatistics Review Certificate, filled conflict-of-interest disclosure form in the re-submitted files.

3. Response to comment:

The title should list in text.

Response:

We have written the title in text, and marked it with a yellow background. Details can be found in the revised manuscript on page 1, lines 2-3.

4. Response to comment:

Please list all author and institutional information in order.

Response:

We have listed all author and institutional information in order, and marked them with a yellow background. Details can be found in the revised manuscript on page 1, lines 4-19.

5. Response to comment:

Please add the Core tip section. The number of words should be controlled between 50-100 words.

Response:

We have added the Core tip section, and marked them with a yellow background. Details can be found in the revised manuscript on page 1, lines 20-28.

6. Response to comment:

The structure of Abstract does not meet the requirements. The abstract includes five parts: "Background", "AIM", "Methods", "RESULTS", and "CONCLUSION".

Response:

We have re-written this part according to the Editor's Comment, and marked them with a yellow background. Details can be found in the revised manuscript on page 2, lines 2-30.

7. Response to comment:

Please provide 4-10 keywords.

Response:

We have added 5 keywords in the text, and marked them with a yellow background. Details can be found in the revised manuscript on page 2, lines 31-33.

8. Response to comment:

Please add the author's contribution section. The format of this section will be as follows: Author contributions: Wang CL, Liang L, Fu JF, Zou CC, Hong F and Wu XM designed the research; Wang CL, Zou CC, Hong F and Wu XM performed the research; Xue JZ and Lu JR contributed new reagents/analytic tools; Wang CL, Liang L and Fu JF analyzed the data; Wang CL, Liang L and Fu JF wrote the paper.

Response:

We have added the author's contribution section, and marked them with a yellow

background. Details can be found in the revised manuscript on page 10, lines 23-39.

9. Response to comment:

Please provide the PubMed numbers (<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/>) and DOI citation numbers (<https://doi.crossref.org/simpleTextQuery>) to the reference list and list all authors of the references. If a reference has no PMID and DOI, please provide the source website address of this reference.

Response:

We have provide the PubMed numbers and DOI citation numbers to the reference list and list all authors of the references, and marked them with a yellow background. Details can be found in the revised manuscript on page 12-13.

10. Response to comment:

Please provide the Figures cited in the original manuscript in the form of PPT. All text can be edited, including A,B, arrows, etc. With respect to the reference to the Figure, please verify if it is an original image created for the manuscript, if not, please provide the source of the picture and the proof that the Figure has been authorized by the previous publisher or copyright owner to allow it to be redistributed. The legends are incorrectly formatted and require a general title and explanation for each figure. For example, “Figure 1 Pathological changes of atrophic gastritis after treatment. A: ...; B: ...; C: ...; D: ...; E: ...; F: ...; G: ...”.

Response:

We have provided the Figures cited in the original manuscript in the form of PPT in the re-submitted files. And we have changed the format legend, and marked them with a yellow background. Details can be found in the revised manuscript on page 16-20.

11. Response to comment:

Please don't include any *, #, †, §, ‡, ¥, @....in your manuscript; Please use superscript numbers for illustration; and for statistical significance, please use superscript letters. Statistical significance is expressed as aP < 0.05, bP < 0.01 (P > 0.05 usually does not need to be denoted). If there are other series of P values, cP < 0.05 and dP < 0.01 are used, and a third series of P values is expressed as eP < 0.05 and fP < 0.01.

Response:

We have used superscript numbers for illustration, details can be found in the revised manuscript on page 16-17, figure 1E, 2E.

12. Response to comment:

The "Article Highlights" section is missing. Please add the "Article Highlights" section at the end of the main text (and directly before the References).

Response:

We have added the "Article Highlights" section at the end of the main text, details can be found in the revised manuscript on page 10, lines 1-32.

Response to REVIEWERS COMMENTS:

Dear Authors, The manuscript "Expression and clinical significance of short-chain fatty acids in patients with intrahepatic cholestasis of pregnancy", describes a very interesting and understudied field of hepatology, as well as obstetrics. The manuscript is written in a clear and concise manner. The statistics are adequately, as are the Figures. The literature is current. Typographical errors need to be corrected. The Manuscript deserves to be published in WJH. All congratulations. With respect.

Response:

We tried our best to improve the manuscript and made some changes to the

manuscript. These changes will not influence the content and framework of the paper. And here we did not list the changes but marked them with a yellow background. We appreciate for Reviewer's warm work earnestly and hope that the correction will meet with approval.

Thank you for your time and kind consideration.

Sincerely Yours,

Rongrong,Xuan.

29 January 2024