

September 29, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 12576-review.doc).

Title: Application of metagenomics in human gut microbiome

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Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

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The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format has been updated

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

Suggestion(1) In the first manuscript, P. 7, line 17: "microarray" instead of "macroarray".

My answer: I have corrected this error. Thank you!

Suggestion(2) in section: Limitations in applying metagenomics, It may be more complete if the authors provide the potential solutions for overcoming these limitation and give a brief discussion on how to improve this technology.

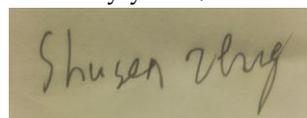
My answer: I answered this suggestion in the section of conclusion and prospects

As metagenomics still has some limitations, it is necessary to combine other microbiome approaches, including cultivation methods, with a study of metagenomics in the intestinal microbiome. By doing like this, the results would be more accurate and convincing. Recently, several studies^[56, 141-143] have successfully used this combination and obtained meaningful findings. To overcome the limitations of metagenomics, it is also important to create a unified microbial DNA extraction method, improve computational algorithms and complete the reference databases.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,



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