

January 21, 2015

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 15614-review.doc).

Title: B.longum-triple preparation, cocktail probiotics, can ameliorate *Helicobacter pylori* induced gastritis

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Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 15614

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

(1) The title of the manuscript has been changed as "B.longum-triple preparation, cocktail probiotics, can ameliorate *Helicobacter pylori* induced gastritis " according to the reviewer's suggestion.

(2) Materials and methods Animal infections What is the consequence of 8 days penicillin/streptomycin-treatment? I wonder whether there are any changes of the immune status of these penicillin/streptomycin-treated mice.

Response: We treated the mice with 8 days of drinking penicillin/streptomycin in order to exclude the interference of inherent bacteria in the mouse stomach according to the method of the article entitled "The degree of helicobacter pylori-triggered inflammation is manipulated by preinfection host microbiota" (Infection and Immunity. 2013, 81: 1382-1389). This treatment did not induce any changes of immune status of mice.

(3) Materials and methods Epithelial cells -H. pylori interaction. In the materials and methods, the MOI is 5 in the coculture system, but in your annotation of figure 4, the MOI is 10. Which one is your choice after all? Why do you choose it?

Response: Thanks for the careful review. We are sorry that we did not describe the interaction system accurately.

In the materials and methods, the MOI=5 in the coculture system referred to BIFICO versus epithelial cells. While in our annotation of figure 4, the MOI =10 referred to *H. pylori* versus epithelial cells. We have described more exactly in our revised manuscript. When *H. pylori* stimulated Epithelial cells at MOI=10, the inflammatory responses including NF- κ B and MAPK signaling is significantly activated. So we choose MOI=10 to investigate the inhibitory effect of BIFICO on inflammatory response.

(4) Results Colonization of BIFICO strain in mice stomach How long does the BIFICO can stay in the stomach without being cleaned out? A long-term event or just a temporary one?

Response: Previously, we have demonstrated the colonization of BIFICO by testing the faecal bacterium, and the results indicated that the amount of BIFICO colonization peaked at 48h-72h after BIFICO administration and then they were cleaned out within about two weeks.

(5) Figure 3. BIFICO don't suppress *H. pylori* colonization in mice stomach. Please mark the *H. pylori* and BIFICO with an arrow in the figure.

Response: Since BIFICO was cleaned out in vivo within two weeks, after 3 weeks, 4 weeks, 5 weeks infection there was no BIFICO but *H. pylori* in the stomach. Therefore, we have marked the *H. pylori* with black arrows in Figure 3.

(6) We have put the original picture as word that can be edited according to the editor's advice(q10).

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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