

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS

March 30th, 2015

Dear Editor,



Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 169319.doc).

Title: The human microbiome: from the bathroom to the bedside

Author: Stephen Malnick, Ehud Melzer

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastrointestinal pathophysiology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 16931

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

- 1 We have expanded on the issue of the HMO being unwilling to finance tests of donors that are not required for normal medical treatment.
2. We have explained the conclusion from the Minnesota study and also added on a further word of caution form relative donors based on a recent report of weight gain after FMT from an obese donor.
3. On page 9 (now page 13) we have altered the sentence to make clear the response rate is 90%.
4. Regarding reference 15 we have expanded the sentence and made the suggested grammatical changes.
5. We have made clear that Bennet is both the author and the subject of the case report.
6. Regarding immunosuppressive therapies we have inserted that the treatment was stopped prior to FMT.
7. We have been more consistent with ther use of abbreviations such as UC and CD.
8. We have explained the 79% response rate.
9. Regarding IBS we have explained that the 70% response rate was overall.
10. We have expanded re the use of germ-free mice and stools from human twins discordant for obesity.
11. We have transferred the reference that was an abstract by Borody et al to the lsit of references and assigned it a number.
12. We have revised reference #22.
13. We have clarified that ref 54 refers to obese male individuals as the subjects.
14. In the section on UC we have commented on the important paper by Fukuda and Fujita on the discriminant score of intestinal microbiota as a biomarker for disease activity.
15. Dr Malnick is a native English speaker and has reviewed the grammar and syntax of the manuscript.

We hope you will find this manuscript suitable for publication in the World Journal of Gastrointestinal pathophysiology.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr. Stephen Malnick,
Director, Department of Internal Medicine C,
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