

Logroño, 2nd of November, 2016

Dear Editor,

We hereby submit a revised version of the Editorial entitled: *Is it enough to eliminate Hepatitis C virus to reverse the damage caused by the infection?* by Patricia Pérez-Matute and José Antonio Oteo to be considered for publication by the World Journal of Clinical Infectious Diseases. We have taken into account the comments suggested by the Reviewers/Editor and the new changes in the manuscript are highlighted in red.

We hope that the observations and improvements suggested have been properly addressed in this new version of the editorial and, therefore, make it suitable for publication in the Journal.

Hoping to hear from you in due course,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Patricia Pérez-Matute".

Dr. Patricia Pérez-Matute

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "José A. Oteo".

Dr. José A. Oteo  
Head of the Infectious Diseases Department

### **Responses to reviewer(s)' Comments:**

#### **Responses to Editor:**

- 1.- As suggested by the Editor, the Zip code and city have been included in the Institution Information of the first page of the manuscript.
- 2.- We have not an specific grant that supports the writing and publication of this Editorial. This information has been included in the supportive foundation section.
- 3.- As suggested, the PubMed citation numbers and DOI citations have been included in the reference section of the new version of the manuscript. All authors have also been listed.

#### **Responses to Reviewer 1 (reviewer's code: 00503052):**

The authors thank the comments from Reviewer 1.

#### **Responses to Reviewer 2 (reviewer's code: 00051373):**

The authors thank the comments from Reviewer 2 and really hope that the readers would benefit from our Editorial.

#### **Responses to Reviewer 3 (reviewer's code: 02861401):**

The authors thank the comments from Reviewer 3. Following his/her suggestions, more details/references have been included in the following points:

1. *Changes in GM composition is associated with plenty disorders, including liver disorders.* Five reviews have been included after this sentence: Bajaj *et al.*, 2014; Brandl y Schnabl, 2015; Hartmann *et al.*, 2015; Villanueva-Millan *et al.*, 2015; Wieland *et al.*, 2015.
2. *Transferring molecules associated with the gut microbiome to the liver and on the other way round.* Two references have been included: Bajaj *et al.*, 2014 and Paoletta *et al.*, 2014.
3. *Composition of the intestinal microbiota could have direct and indirect effects on the function and physiology of the liver and possibly liver disease progression.* Three different references have been included at the end of that sentence: Kakiyama *et al.*, 2013; Nie *et al.*, 2015; Visschers *et al.*, 2013.

4. *Several liver products could directly influence the GM composition.* We have specified that some of these liver products are bile acids and the reference from Nie *et al.*, 2015 has also been included.
5. *Qualitative and Quantitative changes in the composition of the GM in patients with cirrhosis.* The review from Betrapally *et al.*, 2016 has been included. We have also mentioned the study from Wei *et al.*, 2013 where significant differences in the microbiota community and metabolic potential were detected in fecal microbiota of patients with hepatitis B liver cirrhosis.
6. *Preservation of gut microbiota composition arises as a promising tool to prevent and/or to treat the development of these livers disorders.* In order to corroborate the interest of this issue, we have included the following references, mainly focused on the effects of different probiotics on liver disorders (specially on cirrhosis) (Adawi *et al.*, 2001; Bajaj, *et al.*, 2014; Chiva *et al.*, 2002; Elzouki *et al.*, 2016; Sanchez *et al.*, 2015).
7. As suggested by the reviewer, the percentage of virus elimination after the arrival of first-generation direct-acting antivirals has been changed. We apologize for this mistake.