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To: Lian-Sheng Ma – Baishideng Publishing Group Company Editor-in-Chief

Dear Doctor Lian-Sheng Ma,

Thank you for preliminarily accepting our article titled '***Phytochemically rich dietary components and the risk of colorectal cancer: A systematic review and meta-analysis of observational studies***' for publication in *World Journal of Clinical Oncology*. We have made the following revisions to the manuscript according to your recommendations

Recommendations from reviewer #1:

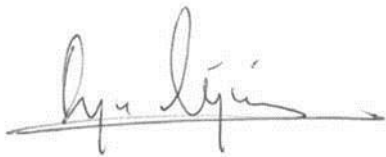
- Inclusion and exclusion criteria have been edited and rephrased and are now not mutually exclusive.
- Type in exclusion criteria has been edited
- Type in the footnotes of eTable 1 has been edited
- Abbreviations in table 1 through 4 have been defined as footnotes.

Recommendations from science editor:

- There is 1 self-cited reference which is relevant to the topic of the manuscript and makes up less than 10% of the total references and has therefore remained in place.
- 'Author Contributions' were previously at the end of the manuscript and have now been moved to the beginning as instructed.
- Documents with original figures and tables have been created. Graphs and text portions are separate so that they can be reprocessed by the editor. In case alternative formats of forest plots are required please do get in touch so that these can be provided.
- 'Article Highlights' section has been added to the end of the main text.

General comments:

- All language issues throughout the manuscript have been resolved and the manuscript has been comprehensively proof-read by the authors, for grammar, sentence structure, word usage, spelling, capitalization, punctuation, format and general readability. As the senior author, and being a native English speaker myself, I can confirm that all is in order from a language and grammar perspective and that a 'Non-native Speaker of English Editing Certificate' is not required.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Reza Mirnezami', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mr Reza Mirnezami (on behalf of the authors)

Consultant Colorectal Surgeon; Honorary Senior Lecturer in Surgery

Royal Free Hospital, London