

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 66800

**Title:** Fusobacterium nucleatum colonization is associated with decreased survival of helicobacter pylori-positive gastric cancer patients

**Reviewer's code:** 05072111

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** PhD

**Professional title:** Assistant Professor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Poland

**Author's Country/Territory:** Taiwan

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-04-11

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-04-11 08:08

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-04-15 19:21

**Review time:** 4 Days and 11 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

## **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

The aim of the article entitled „Fusobacterium nucleatum infection is associated with decreased survival of Helicobacter pylori-positive gastric cancer patients” was to determine the impact of F. nucleatum on the process of gastric carcinogenesis and to determine the influence of this bacterium on the survival of patients infected with H. pylori. I believe that original articles of this type, which deal with the subject of the participation of microflora components in pro- or anti-tumorigenic processes, are very important. Below I would like to present a list of amendments, the introduction of which, in my opinion, will improve the quality of the manuscript: - I would strongly suggest that Fusobacterium is a component of the microflora and for this reason the Authors should change the term "infection" to "colonization" or other expression similar in meaning -> please change in all places in the article where this phrase is used - “Fusobacterium nucleatum was frequently increased in the gastric cancer-associated microbiota ...” -> The increased amount of Fusobacterium nucleatum was more frequently detected in the gastric cancer-associated microbiota ... - “It has been previously observed that the abundance of H. pylori in gastric cancer-associated microbiota frequently decreases” -> Some research articles indicate an increased amount, others a lower. Please add one-two sentences related to this topic and add more relevant references. - “Genomic instability is likely mediated by the metabolites produced by F. nucleatum.” -> Please list the most important examples of these metabolites - “Detection of Fusobacterium DNA using polymerase chain reaction (PCR) facilitates screening of colorectal cancer by increasing the sensitivity of the standard fecal immunochemical test [9].” -> please delete the paragraph after this sentence (one-sentence paragraph does not look good, otherwise it links to the next one by topic) - “In our previous metagenomic analysis, we discovered that F. nucleatum colonized and became enriched in gastric



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cancer-associated microbiota." -> please add reference - "The clinical data confirmed that *F. nucleatum* infection is frequently observed in patients." -> which type of patients? Please add. - In the two paragraphs starting with "The risk of *F. nucleatum* infection was ..." and ending with "... infection may adversely impact the treatment outcome." there is a lack of references to statistics, please add "p value = ..." after different sentences. - "*F. nucleatum* is a pathogen resident in oral microbiota." -> *F. nucleatum* is an opportunistic pathogen residing mainly in oral cavity. - "Other inflammatory pathogens, such as *H. pylori* ..." -> Other inflammation-inducing pathogens, such as *H. pylori* ... - There are no references in the Discussion at all. Please add them in all relevant places, i.e., where the Authors refer to the data of other researchers

## RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

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**Author's Country/Territory:** Taiwan

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<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

I would like to point out that the Authors of this manuscript have followed my suggestions (thus, I can see an improvment). I still have, however, some concerns with English language, which needs to be polished.