

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

Manuscript NO: 67729

Title: The gut microbiota of a population highly affected of obesity and type 2 diabetes and the susceptibility to COVID-19.

Reviewer's code: 05865912

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: India

Author's Country/Territory: Mexico

Manuscript submission date: 2021-05-01

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-05-04 17:05

Reviewer performed review: 2021-05-04 17:12

Review time: 1 Hour

Scientific quality	☐ Grade A: Excellent ☒ Grade B: Very good ☐ Grade C: Good ☐ Grade D: Fair ☐ Grade E: Do not publish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

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

1. In my opinion could be more elegant to change for all the text T2D with T2DM. Please correct it. 2. Thus, T2DM is a relevant co-morbidity and negative prognostic factor for patients with COVID-19 infection as recently evidenced by authors in full length original study (Outcomes in Patients With Hyperglycemia Affected by COVID-19: Can We Do More on Glycemic Control? *Diabetes Care*. 2020 Jul;43(7):1408-1415. doi: 10.2337/dc20-0723) and meta-analysis of published data (Impact of diabetes mellitus on clinical outcomes in patients affected by Covid-19. *Cardiovasc Diabetol*. 2020 Jun 11;19(1):76. doi: 10.1186/s12933-020-01047-y). Please discuss this point and this references, stressing the concept of T2DM and much more of altered glucose homeostasis and hyperglycemics vs. normoglycemics condition as negative prognostic factors for COVID-19 infection. What is your opinion? Please discuss it and report the results of these two studies on T2DM and COVID-19 3. Regards the ACE2 receptors, their expression and clinical outcomes, do not forget to report that hypertension is more common than T2DM in patients with COVID-19 infection (Hypertension, Thrombosis, Kidney Failure, and Diabetes: Is COVID-19 an Endothelial Disease? A Comprehensive Evaluation of Clinical and Basic Evidence. *Journal of Clinical Medicine* 2020; doi: 10.3390/jcm9051417). Indeed, a particular interest has been invested on the expression of ACE2 receptors and on clinical outcomes in hypertensive patients, and in hypertensive patients under ACEi/ARBs drugs. Indeed, hypertensive patients represent a class of high risk patients (Could anti-hypertensive drug therapy affect the clinical prognosis of hypertensive patients with COVID-19 infection? Data from centers of southern Italy. *J Am Heart Assoc*. 2020 Jul 7:e016948. doi: 10.1161/JAHA.120.016948). Notably, there is not actual evidence to discontinue this chronic therapy in hypertensive patients with COVID-19 infection. Please discuss this point, to remark a brief description of

hypertensive patients and antihypertensive drugs in COVID-19 disease. 4. Again, in your article there is not description about the possible link existing between these disorders and ABO group as a potential pro-thrombotic status and the endothelial dysfunction in patients with covid-19 disease? However, in covid-19 patients the ABO group could be a pro-thrombotic status (Implications of AB0 blood group in hypertensive patients with covid-19. BMC Cardiovasc Disord. 2020 Aug 14;20(1):373. doi: 10.1186/s12872-020-01658-z). Indeed, authors suggest that non-O covid-19 hypertensive patients have significantly higher values of pro-thrombotic indexes, as well as higher rate of cardiac injury and deaths compared to O patients (Implications of AB0 blood group in hypertensive patients with covid-19. BMC Cardiovasc Disord. 2020 Aug 14;20(1):373. doi: 10.1186/s12872-020-01658-z). Moreover, AB0 blood type influences worse prognosis in hypertensive patients with covid-19 infection (Implications of AB0 blood group in hypertensive patients with covid-19. BMC Cardiovasc Disord. 2020 Aug 14;20(1):373. doi: 10.1186/s12872-020-01658-z). In my opinion this information has to be updated in the text and references

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Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

Manuscript NO: 67729

Title: The gut microbiota of a population highly affected of obesity and type 2 diabetes and the susceptibility to COVID-19.

Reviewer's code: 05687852

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Doctor, Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Taiwan

Author's Country/Territory: Mexico

Manuscript submission date: 2021-05-01

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-05-05 08:13

Reviewer performed review: 2021-05-13 13:55

Review time: 8 Days and 5 Hours

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

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

It is an interesting manuscript. Authors succeed to present their data data about the association between dysbiosis of the gut microbiota and metabolic diseases, could suggest that the high levels of susceptibility to SARS-CoV-2 infection and COVID-19 morbidity in the Mexican population. This paper was written in a clear way adding information to the existing literature. Therefore, maybe interesting to the readers in "World Journal of Gastroenterology".