



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Clinical Cases*

Manuscript NO: 76792

Title: Glucose substrate in the hydrogen breath test for gut microbiota determination: a recommended non-invasive test

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05086118

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MBBS, MD

Professional title: Associate Professor, Research Scientist

Reviewer's Country/Territory: India

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2022-03-31

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-04-18 08:13

Reviewer performed review: 2022-04-18 08:36

Review time: 1 Hour

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|---------------------------|---|
| Scientific quality | <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 Grade E: Do not publish |
| Language quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection |
| Conclusion | <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection |
| Re-review | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |



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| Peer-reviewer statements | Peer-Review: [<input type="checkbox"/>] Anonymous [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [<input type="checkbox"/>] Yes [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] No |
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

" SIBO may be caused by cirrhosis, or it could be a mechanism of gastrointestinal diseases." should be changed to "The etiology of IBO apart from cirrhosis be considered" "We recommend that investigators investigate the gastrointestinal disease" should be change to " We recommend insvestigators exclude confounding gastroinstestinal diseases...."



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Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05572055

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Associate Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: United Arab Emirates

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2022-03-31

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-04-21 06:58

Reviewer performed review: 2022-04-30 19:54

Review time: 9 Days and 12 Hours

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|---------------------------|---|
| Scientific quality | <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 |
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|-------------------------------------|---|

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In principal i agree with the suggestions provided in this letter to editor, but i have the following suggestions: 1. I agree that using glucose as a substrate is more sensitive than using lactulose as substrate in detecting SIBO, but it has been reported as well that different substrates can detect bacterial growth in different areas of the small intestine. Glucose is a sugar that is fermented in the upper (proximal) part of the small intestine; while lactulose is fermented in the lower (distal) part of the small intestine. therefore using a combination of both could be also recommended. 2. I agree that the sample size in the study should be higher, but i recommend the authors to include a justification (or an excuse) for using this samples size, for instance, " although a larger sample size is recommended in this study, but it is worth mentioning that recruiting a high number of cirrhosis patients is difficult".