

Dear Editors and Reviewers in *WJH*,

We thank you for your encouragement and advice. We would like to resubmit the manuscript entitled “Gut microbiome and MAFLD: current status and possible applications” (Manuscript NO. 84673, Review) for your further consideration for publication in *WJH*.

We also thank the reviewers for their constructive comments and suggestions. We have revised the manuscript accordingly, and all amendments are marked in red font in the revised manuscript. Please see our point-by-point responses to the comments below. In addition, we have carefully checked every sentence in the revision to eliminate and reduce any potential syntax error. This manuscript has been proofread by two native English editors from *KetengEdit*, a professional publication service company. We think that this manuscript is easily understood in terms of a scientific review and its language writing.

If I can be of any assistance regarding the process of this manuscript please feel free to contact me. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Haoming Xu (E-mail: haomingxu1992@126.com; Tel: +86 20 81045106; Fax: +86 20 81045106),
Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Guangzhou First People’s Hospital, School of
Medicine, South China University of Technology, No. 1 Panfu Road, Guangzhou, Guangdong, China,
510180

First of all, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to the reviewers for their constructive and positive comments.

Replies to the Reviewer 1,

The review "Gut microbiome and MAFLD: current status and possible applications", ID: 05077820; by Fei Yao, Wei-peng Lu, Hao-ming Xu is a manuscript that presents the difficulty of deciding which is the proper publication site. This is because it is interesting, well-designed, up-to-date, well-referenced (#147), clear figures, and well-discussed. From this reviewer's point of view, this is an excellent book chapter (#22 pages from abstract to references). To be considered for publication in a journal, authors must focus on a few of the many subheadings submitted, such as "lipid disorders and GM" or "insulin resistance and GM," "hepatic and ethanol and GM pathophysiology," etc., but , is a basic, extensive description, which should be deepened further. For example, choline is a very interesting molecule, since it is only incorporated by the diet and by the synthesis of the gut microbiome. Diets deficient in choline and vit. B12 administered to weanling rats induces fatty liver and renal cortical necrosis with almost 100% deaths within 10 days. This pathophysiology should be presented and discussed. The authors overlooked this and other data, it is possible that it is due to the extensive information, which although it covers many topics, does not do so in depth.

We thank his/her careful review. Now, we have added deepened literature and updated mechanism research to the two parts “Bile acid metabolism disorders & Choline metabolism disorders” which as reviewer said “choline is a very interesting molecule, since it is only incorporated by the diet and by the synthesis of the gut microbiome” as well as included some discussion about “Vit B12, fatty liver and renal cortical necrosis”. For some “basic, extensive description” parts like “Damaged intestinal barrier function and endotoxemia & GM metabolites” we have removed accordingly. In addition, this revised manuscript has been proofread by two native English editors from *KetengEdit*, a professional publication service company in order to improve the readability of the manuscript.

Replies to the Reviewer 2,

This is a very nice revision about new aspects regarding microbiota and NASH. Although there is little evidence regarding this theme, this review was able to address important topics. figures are of great quality. Review the format concerning subtitles and subsections of the manuscript, and also the conclusion (must have a subtitle line 8 (page 23) - the way to write MAFLD must be correct References: The references are up dated and representative, being 37% of the last 5 years. the format are not

according to the rules of WJG and must be reviewed.

We appreciate his/her positive comments and advice. We have made adjustments to the subtitles and subsections as well as removed unnecessary parts. The format of the references has also been updated in this version. In addition, this revised manuscript has been proofread by two native English editors from *KetengEdit*, a professional publication service company in order to improve the readability of the manuscript. Thanks again for your comments and advice.