

ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS manuscript NO: 30766

Title: Subclinical Atherosclerosis Is Linked To Small Intestinal Bacterial Overgrowth Via Vitamin K2-Dependent Mechanisms

Reviewer's code: 00038617

Reviewer's country: Japan

Science editor: Ze-Mao Gong

Date sent for review: 2016-10-31 17:10

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CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In this study, the authors investigated the rate of matrix Gla-protein carboxylation in patients with small intestinal bacterial overgrowth (SIBO) and its association with subclinical atherosclerosis. According their results, patients affected by SIBO had higher levels of inactive MGP and an increased arterial stiffness. This condition was not influenced by vitamin K2 intake from diet. These results suggest that bacteria are the main source of vitamin K2 in humans, and that vitamin K2 metabolism may be altered as a consequence of small intestinal dysbiosis. This manuscript is well written, and is certainly the first which investigates the consequences of vitamin K2 metabolism derangement on MGP activity in patients with SIBO. There is no additional requirement for publication.

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Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS manuscript NO: 30766

Title: Subclinical Atherosclerosis Is Linked To Small Intestinal Bacterial Overgrowth Via Vitamin K2-Dependent Mechanisms

Reviewer's code: 00050564

Reviewer's country: India

Science editor: Ze-Mao Gong

Date sent for review: 2016-10-31 17:10

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CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In this manuscript the authors have assessed the role of matrix Gla-protein carboxylation in patients with small intestinal bacterial overgrowth (SIBO) and its association with subclinical atherosclerosis. Authors have used non-invasive Glucose Breath test to diagnose SIBO. This is an important study. The idea is novel but the number of patients enrolled is too less to come to this conclusion as mentioned by the authors also. However it needs some modifications in results presentation. Table 1 SIBO positive and negative have only be given in males. The data for females should also be given. Similarly the data of other parameters like Vitamin K intake and Framingham risk score should be defined in males and females separately