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ESPS PEER REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Pathophysiology
ESPS manuscript NO: 11495
Title: Alterations of the gut microbiome and metabolome in the development of alcoholic liver disease
Reviewer code: 02462691
Science editor: Ling-Ling Wen
Date sent for review: 2014-05-24 22:57
Date reviewed: 2014-05-27 05:31

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
[ ] Grade A: Excellent	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	[Y] Accept
[ ] Grade B: Very good	[Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing	[ ] Existing	[ ] High priority for publication
[Y] Grade C: Good	[ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	[ ] No records	
[ ] Grade D: Fair	[ ] Grade D: Rejected	BPG Search:	[ ] Rejection
[ ] Grade E: Poor		[ ] Existing	[ ] Minor revision
		[ ] No records	[ ] Major revision

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is a comprehensive review on the role of gut microbiota in alcoholic liver disease (ALD). Modulation of gut microbiome in ALD is a potential approach and as the authors pointed out, it has been studied for decades, however even though some results have been positive, the actual beneficial clinical effects have not been confirmed. There is an emerging interests in profiling of metabolites in ALD and this may pave the way to better understand the complex interactions between the gut microbiota and the liver. Since this is relatively new, maybe the authors can provide some further details on the approach they have used. A table to summarize recent studies that have looked into this area is much appreciated. Rather than a brief mention in the conclusion, I would suggest that authors have another section that describe the potential application of metabolic profiling.

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ESPS PEER REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Pathophysiology
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Title: Alterations of the gut microbiome and metabolome in the development of alcoholic liver disease
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CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
[ ] Grade A: Excellent	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	[ ] Accept
[Y] Grade B: Very good	[Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing	[ ] Existing	[ ] High priority for publication
[ ] Grade C: Good	[ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	[ ] No records	
[ ] Grade D: Fair		BPG Search:	[ ] Rejection
[ ] Grade E: Poor	[ ] Grade D: Rejected	[ ] Existing	[Y] Minor revision
		[ ] No records	[ ] Major revision

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

It is an interesting review! minor comments: 1- In the abstract "These adverse effects ultimately manifest a broad change of gastrointestinal luminal metabolites such as bile acids, short chain fatty acids, and branched chain amino acids." needs to be edited. It is difficult to understand. 2- Why does metronidazole increase anaerobes (reference 19)? 3- "In our study, we found that the hepatic bile salt taurine to glycine ratio was 30:1 in control rats, while the ratio was equivalent in alcohol-treated rats. " what "equivalent" means here? 4- "The possible links between the host, gut microbiota, and gut metabolome will be addressed as well." Do the authors mean in this review? This should be reworded. 5- Wherever the results of reference 68 & 69 is reported, those studies should be cited. 6- Based on metabolomics, was there any change in choline and its metabolites (TMA and TMAO)?