

July 2, 2014



Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 11002-review.doc).

Title: Microbiota alterations in acute and chronic gastrointestinal inflammation of cats and dogs

Author: Julia B Honneffer, Yasushi Minamoto, Jan S Suchodolski

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 11002

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format has been updated.

2 Revision have been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

- (1) Two reviewers suggested tables and/or figures would improve the manuscript. We have added a figure that displays the metagenomic data for cats and dogs, and we added two tables to summarize recent studies (Table 1) and compare similarities between cats, dogs, and humans (Table 2).
- (2) One reviewer requested that we provide more extensive information about the cited references and also that we include sample sizes and biopsy sites for cited studies. By adding Table 1, we have incorporated these valuable suggestions. The few references to sample size that were previously included directly in the body of the manuscript have now been removed for consistency, and that information is included in Table 1 rather than the text to improve readability. Additional information about the methods employed in the studies was also added.
- (3) One reviewer identified issues with abbreviations and using the full name of a bacterium when first mentioned. We greatly appreciate the attention to detail and have made the corrections.

3 References and typesetting were corrected.

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jan S Suchodolski'.

Jan S Suchodolski, MedVet, DrMedVet, PhD, Diplomate ACVM

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