

ESPS Peer-review Report
Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 7001

Title: Methodological issues in the study of intestinal microbiota in irritable bowel syndrome

Reviewer code: 02821952

Science editor: Su-Xin Gou

Date sent for review: 2013-10-31 20:04

Date reviewed: 2013-12-28 20:52

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B (Very good)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<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"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)		BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript has been written well and has a good discussion of the technologies used for studying IM in IBS as well as alterations in microbiome composition in IBS individuals in light of various methods. Below points might be considered to further enhance the quality of the manuscript. Authors could also search for articles with these key words: "Irritable bowel syndrome + microbiome" or "IBS+microbiota", etc. Please either use IBS-C and IBS-D or C-IBS and D-IBS. The second half of the manuscript needs just a little grammatical refining to improve fluency. Line 134-135: Please correct the grammar. Line 173: It may also be mentioned that microarray results are not usually fully trusted in other molecular biology experiments and need to be verified by other molecular techniques. Line 207: Please correct the grammar. Line 296: Please convert Clostridium to C. A number of such corrections are required throughout the manuscript. Line 354: Please correct grammatically. Line 464: from

ESPS Peer-review Report

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

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Title: Methodological issues in the study of intestinal microbiota in irritable bowel syndrome

Reviewer code: 00069814

Science editor: Su-Xin Gou

Date sent for review: 2013-10-31 20:04

Date reviewed: 2014-02-14 15:24

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input checked="" 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"/> Existed	<input checked="" 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"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Very interesting article . Adding some figures will make it more attractive for readers.

ESPS Peer-review Report
Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 7001

Title: Methodological issues in the study of intestinal microbiota in irritable bowel syndrome

Reviewer code: 00070920

Science editor: Su-Xin Gou

Date sent for review: 2013-10-31 20:04

Date reviewed: 2014-02-24 15:57

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	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"/> Existed	<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"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)		BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) is characterized by chronic recurrent abdominal pain or abdominal discomfort associated with bowel dysfunction. Pathophysiologic abnormalities of IBS include altered visceral sensory function, altered motility, bacterial overgrowth, and altered central nervous system processing. The clinical features implicate polymorphisms in the genes that encode adrenergic, opioidergic or serotonergic receptors, as well as in the G-protein $\beta 3$ subunit (GNB3) gene and serotonin-transporter genes, in their manifestations. Emerging evidence suggests that alterations in the gastrointestinal microbiota and altered immune function may play a role in the pathogenesis of the disorder. This review discusses on the role played by intestinal microbiota in the pathogenesis of irritable bowel syndrome (IBS). The authors raised a number of methodological issues and limitations in studies so far performed relating the role of intestinal microbiota in IBS pathology. This analytic review is very interesting that points out the importance of identification of microbial subgroups whose relative abundance significantly altered in IBS, which can now be targeted for the development of new diagnostic tools and therapeutic strategies for the different subtypes of IBS (diarrhea, constipation-predominant and alternating IBS). In the pathogenesis of IBS, bacterial proteases and protease activated receptors (PARs) play a pivotal role in increased permeability, nociception and activation of the immune response and in disrupting the cytokine signaling. Therefore, PARs together with proteases that activate them, represent exciting targets for therapeutic intervention of abdominal pain associated with bowel dysfunction. Since bifidobacteria that have serine protease inhibiting function are underrepresented in diarrhea prone IBS, probiotic preparations rich in bifidobacteria may be a treatment option. Studies noticed higher levels of



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Veillonella in IBS-C that cause increased levels of acetate and propionate and thereby an increase in visceral pain; butyrate-producing clostridial bacteria might promote sensory dysfunctions causing increased mucus secretion, typical of IBS -D and IBS-C. Thus future studies should attempt to identify the predominant microbial groups involved in different types of IBS showing their interactions with, local, migratory and immune cells in establishing the disease.