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ESPS Peer-review Report

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 10208

Title: Probiotics: how the information on health benefits is included in dietary guidelines and clinical recommendations outside European Union

Reviewer code: 00159298

Science editor: Su-Xin Gou

Date sent for review: 2014-03-19 10:59

Date reviewed: 2014-03-19 16:40

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 type="checkbox"/> Grade C (Good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: a great deal of	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)	language polishing	BPG Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This work doesn't substantially add any relevant data to the existent and more detailed reviews on this subject. Authors may try on a more specifically probiotics-dedicated journal to publish this paper.

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

ESPS Manuscript NO: 10208

Title: Probiotics: how the information on health benefits is included in dietary guidelines and clinical recommendations outside European Union

Reviewer code: 01434943

Science editor: Su-Xin Gou

Date sent for review: 2014-03-19 10:59

Date reviewed: 2014-03-21 13:22

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 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)	<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

Title: Suggest 'outside the European Union' Abstract: Good; appropriate. Introduction: 'optimal' would be preferable to 'the best'. Tables are informative. Need to italicise all organisms (eg *Saccharomyces*). References; Appropriate.

ESPS Peer-review Report**Name of Journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 10208**Title:** Probiotics: how the information on health benefits is included in dietary guidelines and clinical recommendations outside European Union**Reviewer code:** 00069156**Science editor:** Su-Xin Gou**Date sent for review:** 2014-03-19 10:59**Date reviewed:** 2014-03-26 09:37

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Grade C (Good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: a great deal of	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)	language polishing	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

This article aims to review possible recommendations for fermented foods and probiotics in several countries outside the EU, focusing on food-based dietary guidelines with emphasize on recommendations related to yoghurt and probiotics. This is a well-written article and provides a unique platform providing excellent starting points for readers interested in the regulation of health promoting bacteria and products utilizing such bacteria. As far as the literature concerned this is one of very few articles that summarize the recommendations on probiotics from scientific associations. In general this article will be of value to the readers of WJG.

ESPS Peer-review Report**Name of Journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 10208**Title:** Probiotics: how the information on health benefits is included in dietary guidelines and clinical recommendations outside European Union**Reviewer code:** 00049578**Science editor:** Su-Xin Gou**Date sent for review:** 2014-03-19 10:59**Date reviewed:** 2014-03-28 23:14

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B (Very good)	<input 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	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)	language polishing	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 paper by Ebner et al. aims at reviewing the consideration of probiotics in clinical/dietary guidelines outside the European Union. I must say I engaged the review of this paper with enthusiasm (which is quite rare) because I thought that it would introduce and criticize differences with the EU, and possibly talk about the issue of claims, which is directly related. None of this happens, and as a result the paper lacks punch in my opinion. The title should probably read 'the European Union'. Also inflammatory bowel disease (above Fig. 2). No page numbers. Corrections showing.

ESPS Peer-review Report

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 10208

Title: Probiotics: how the information on health benefits is included in dietary guidelines and clinical recommendations outside European Union

Reviewer code: 00188978

Science editor: Su-Xin Gou

Date sent for review: 2014-03-19 10:59

Date reviewed: 2014-04-07 19:08

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 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Although the title of the manuscript is very apt and interesting, the manuscript lacks substance. I recommend major revision. Authors have included various non European countries in the review for assessing their dietary guidelines for fermented foods, stating no probiotic recommendations in any of these except those for Canada. Furthermore, as per my knowledge, the regulatory status indicated in table 1 is not appropriate and countries like Japan have already conferred special FOSHU (Foods for special health issues) status to yoghurts. Same applies for several other countries too. Fermented foods are not only restricted to yoghurt but include numerous other products which have not been included in the present review. Observations or stand of important 'outside European Union' regulatory agencies like FDA and ICH has not been included in the present review. FDA has its own guidelines for probiotics in food. Figure 1 and 2 need improvement as they fail to add any value to the text. More extensive literature search is recommended.