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## ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 19092

**Title:** Is irritable bowel syndrome an infectious disease?

**Reviewer's code:** 00052899

**Reviewer's country:** China

**Science editor:** Jing Yu

**Date sent for review:** 2015-05-12 10:07

**Date reviewed:** 2015-07-23 11:15

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"/> Duplicate publication	
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
		BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

### COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) is a heterogenous diseases without exact mechanism to explain the heterogeneity of symptoms. In this article, the author focused on underlying infectious disease to discuss the potential role in etiology. Infectious etiology for IBS are supported by small intestinal bacterial overgrowth (SIBO), microbiota-host interactions and so on. Moreover, evidence from probiotic trials and antibiotic trials also confirmed that. Finally, the author concluded that infectious disease may provide a unifying hypothesis that better explains the overall symptomatology in IBS. Overall, the manuscript is well-written. However, there remain several concerns in the current manuscript. SIBO is a frequent but underestimated condition in IBS. The antibiotic therapy for patients with IBS suggested that reduction in SIBO was associated with disease symptom improvement. It is better to provide the efficacy of probiotic or combined antibiotic and probiotic on treatment in patients with IBS accompanied SIBO. Furthermore, there are several typographical errors which should be corrected.