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ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology
ESPS manuscript NO: 22053
Title: The scent of stool: The diagnostic potential of fecal headspace volatile organic compounds
Reviewer's code: 01943305
Reviewer's country: Italy
Science editor: Ya-Juan Ma
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CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
[ ] Grade A: Excellent	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	[Y] Accept
[ ] Grade B: Very good	[Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing	[ ] The same title	[ ] High priority for publication
[Y] Grade C: Good	[ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	[ ] Duplicate publication	[ ] Rejection
[ ] Grade D: Fair	[ ] Grade D: Rejected	[ ] Plagiarism	[ ] Minor revision
[ ] Grade E: Poor		[Y] No	[ ] Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		[ ] The same title	
		[ ] Duplicate publication	
		[ ] Plagiarism	
		[Y] No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Dear Editor, In this paper the authors reviewed the field of "electronic noses", including analytical spectrometric platforms and pattern-recognition devices, and the applications to diagnose disease by analysis of volatile organic compounds (VOC) generated by the microbiome and the end products of metabolism in the fecal headspace gas. The authors describe as these volatile analytical platforms, such as GC-MS and new ionization techniques coupled to mass spectrometers, measure and identify volatiles without pre-concentration or separation steps. As well as they describe the most studied electronic nose and their applications to medical diagnostics, devices that have been designed to be portable and easy to use. This review also describes the analysis of VOC emitted by stool in normal and pathologic subjects affected by conditions that alter the pathways of nutrition, digestion, and the activity of gut microbiome such as colorectal cancer, inflammatory bowel disease, irritable bowel syndrome, infectious diarrhea, and other gastro-intestinal conditions including celiac disease, non-alcoholic fatty liver disease, necrotizing enterocolitis, and pelvic radiation toxicity. This work also represents an opportunity for translation of of new analytical techniques MS based to clinical

applications. The field reviewed by the authors is innovative and it will be interesting for clinical applications in next future and for the readers of this journal.