

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 56819

**Title:** Acupuncture improved lipid metabolism by regulating intestinal absorption in mice

**Reviewer's code:** 03563654

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Associate Professor, Professor, Surgeon

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** United States

**Author's Country/Territory:** Japan

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-05-19

**Reviewer chosen by:** Jia-Ping Yan

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2020-06-08 07:08

**Reviewer performed review:** 2020-06-08 07:11

**Review time:** 1 Hour

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

#### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

well written manuscript. i have few suggestions. 1- what is the statistical method? 2- (DOI: 10.1111/iwj.13265 ) and ( <https://doi.org/10.1111/tbj.13174>) I suggest these uptodate studies for the references.

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 56819

**Title:** Acupuncture improved lipid metabolism by regulating intestinal absorption in mice

**Reviewer's code:** 00069423

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** FAASLD, MD

**Professional title:** Professor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** United States

**Author's Country/Territory:** Japan

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-05-19

**Reviewer chosen by:** Jia-Ping Yan

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2020-06-08 01:44

**Reviewer performed review:** 2020-06-16 17:11

**Review time:** 8 Days and 15 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

6/16/20 Review for World J Gastroenterology. "Acupuncture improved lipid metabolism by regulating intestinal absorption in mice" General Comments The authors conducted an animal study to investigate a potential role of acupuncture treatment n lipid metabolism and the therapeutic modality for NAFLD. They found positive effect of acupuncture in regulation of lipid metabolism possibly through regulation of intestinal absorption of lipid. The findings of reduced intra-abdominal fat, low lipid absorption in the small intestine and lower blood lipid levels in the acupuncture treated mice are highly significant. Furthermore, more fat deposition in the intestinal epithelium suggests that acupuncture may suppress lipid absorption by downregulating the expression of apolipoproteins in the small intestine. These findings in the mice experiment are highly commendable. It is hoped that acupuncture may play a role in preventing/management of NAFLD in humans. The major concerning points for this work Food intake at the beginning and throughout the treatment with acupuncture was not assessed. Therefore, the conclusion that weight loss and low fat absorption are attributed to acupuncture alone becomes questionable. Questions and suggestions 1. For the readers unfamiliar with Traditional Chinese Medicine, it would be courteous that authors provide the significance and function of the three acupoints, ST36, CV4, KI1 and the respective location in the body. 2. At the end of inducing the NAFLD with MCT+high fat (HF), the mice were divided into two groups, AG and NG. Q. Were their weight comparable between two groups? Q. During the acupuncture treatment for 2 weeks, how many times per day were the mice treated? Q. Were they under anesthesia during acupuncture treatment? If not how were the mice restrained during the treatment? Q. If anesthetized for the treatment, would that have influenced the appetite following the treatment under anesthesia. Q. Were the



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food intake comparable between AG and NG mice during the 2 weeks' treatment period. Suggestion in Methods In methodology, it would be helpful for the readers to describe the experiment chronologically; briefly, after 2 weeks MCD diet, HF continued. At the beginning of HF diet, they were randomized and acupuncture treatment for one group. After the end of 2 weeks on HF diet, acupuncture treatment, mice put under anesthesia, exsanguination, autopsy and etc.

## RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

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**Academic degree:** MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Associate Professor, Professor, Surgeon

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** United States

**Author's Country/Territory:** Japan

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-05-19

**Reviewer chosen by:** Han Zhang

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2020-07-23 18:46

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**Review time:** 1 Hour

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS



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accept