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## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 90913

Title: Effects of Lactobacillus paracasei N1115 on gut microbial imbalance and liver

function in patients with hepatitis B-related cirrhosis

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05845795 Position: Peer Reviewer Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Research Fellow

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Poland

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2023-12-17

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2023-12-18 20:05

Reviewer performed review: 2023-12-18 21:11

Review time: 1 Hour

	[ ] Grade A: Excellent [ ] Grade B: Very good [Y] Grade C:
Scientific quality	Good
	[ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish
Novelty of this manuscript	[ ] Grade A: Excellent [ Y] Grade B: Good [ ] Grade C: Fair [ ] Grade D: No novelty
Creativity or innovation of	[ ] Grade A: Excellent [ Y] Grade B: Good [ ] Grade C: Fair
this manuscript	[ ] Grade D: No creativity or innovation



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Scientific significance of the conclusion in this manuscript	[ ] Grade A: Excellent [Y] Grade B: Good [ ] Grade C: Fair [ ] Grade D: No scientific significance
Language quality	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing [Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[ ] Accept (High priority) [ ] Accept (General priority) [ Y] Minor revision [ ] Major revision [ ] Rejection
Re-review	[Y]Yes [ ]No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [ ] Anonymous [ Y] Onymous  Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [ Y] No

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The work presented to me for review is interesting and contains a lot of useful clinical information. I have a few critical comments: 1. There is no information on how many patients from the group treated with LP N1115 passed stools initially and after 3 months of intervention (the enigmatic information of 54 patients did not do so), it is insufficient, because conclusions were drawn based on the number of collected stool samples -? 2. There is no information on how feces were collected in the group of 74 patients who received only general treatment. Was an analogy used and stool samples were collected once initially or twice, i.e. after 3 months of treatment? 3. Were antibiotics or proton pump inhibitors (PPIs) used in both groups, and if so, why were antibiotics and PPIs used? 4. How old were the patients? 5. How many women and how many men?