



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

Manuscript NO: 91035

Title: Association between childhood obesity and gut microbiota: 16S rRNA gene sequencing-based cohort study

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 07916538

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Doctor, Research Assistant

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Japan

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2024-01-25

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2024-01-31 07:30

Reviewer performed review: 2024-02-05 08:38

Review time: 5 Days and 1 Hour

Scientific quality	<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 Grade E: Do not publish
Novelty of this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No novelty
Creativity or innovation of this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No creativity or innovation



Scientific significance of the conclusion in this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No scientific significance
Language quality	<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
Conclusion	<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
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	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

The study aims to explore the association between childhood obesity and gut microbiota using 16S rRNA gene sequencing. It provides insights into the characteristic gut genera in obese and normal-weight children, potentially contributing to understanding the mechanisms and prevention strategies of childhood obesity. The study addresses a significant and timely topic, linking childhood obesity with gut microbiota. The methodology, especially the use of 16S rRNA gene sequencing, is robust and appropriate for the study's aims. The data analysis is comprehensive, with a clear presentation of findings, including differences in gut microbiota composition between obese and normal-weight children. Despite these commendable aspects, there is room for improvement in certain areas to elevate the manuscript's overall impact. 1. The discussion could benefit from a deeper exploration of how these findings translate into practical prevention strategies for childhood obesity. 2. While the sample size is adequate, a more diverse demographic might provide broader applicability of the findings. 3. The study could be strengthened by longitudinal follow-up to assess changes in gut microbiota over time in relation to obesity development. Thanks



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Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 07916513

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Assistant Professor, Researcher

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Italy

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2024-01-25

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2024-01-29 07:11

Reviewer performed review: 2024-02-05 09:23

Review time: 7 Days and 2 Hours

Scientific quality	<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
Novelty of this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No novelty
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Scientific significance of the conclusion in this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No scientific significance
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Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	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

This manuscript presents a well-conducted study on the relationship between gut microbiota and childhood obesity. It utilizes 16S rRNA gene sequencing to identify differences in gut microbiota between obese and normal-weight children. The research topic is highly relevant and contributes valuable information to the field of pediatric obesity and microbiota. The inclusion of control and obese groups with careful matching is commendable, allowing for a more accurate comparison. The study's methodology and statistical analysis are thorough, contributing to the reliability of the results. I have just some minor comments. 1)The introduction could be expanded to provide a more detailed background on the mechanisms linking gut microbiota to obesity. 2)In terms of clinical applicability, suggestions on how these findings could influence treatment or prevention of childhood obesity would be valuable. 3)The manuscript would benefit from a discussion on potential limitations of the study. 4)In Text page 10 line 16, Figure 2C, 2D should be Figure1C, 1D. I recommend acceptance of this manuscript for publication after minor editing. Sincerely