

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery*

Manuscript NO: 81628

Title: Fecal microbiota transplantation as potential first-line treatment for patients with *Clostridioides difficile* infection and prior appendectomy

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 02537773

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Academic Research, Associate Professor, Doctor, Lecturer, Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Germany

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2022-11-19

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-12-18 11:59

Reviewer performed review: 2022-12-18 12:46

Review time: 1 Hour

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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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 authors provide the letter to the editor to the paper that has been published in 2021. Title needs revision as it does not reflect the message of the letter to the editor: FMT as potential first-line treatment for patients with The authors should apply the newest nomenclature: *Clostridioides difficile*. This needs to be written in cursive. The authors state that the cited work studied “the impact” of appendectomy, however, this is not correct as the authors in the cited work evaluated an association between appendectomy and severity of CDI infection. The authors state that there is limited evidence for the better outcome after FMT with a reference 7. This is only partially true while some groups have indeed shown substantial improvement of outcome (randomized trials and particularly this work Cammarota et al. Ann Intern Med 2015). Final message/sentence of the letter is kind of too broad and with a borderline message.

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Reviewer's code: 03349749

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Professor, Surgeon

Reviewer's Country/Territory: South Korea

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2022-11-19

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-12-23 07:05

Reviewer performed review: 2022-12-23 07:13

Review time: 1 Hour

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
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Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [<input checked="" type="radio"/>] Anonymous [<input type="radio"/>] Onymous
	Conflicts-of-Interest: [<input type="radio"/>] Yes [<input checked="" type="radio"/>] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

no specific comment

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Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 06059026

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MBBS, MD

Professional title: Assistant Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: India

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2022-11-19

Reviewer chosen by: Dong-Mei Wang

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-12-31 07:06

Reviewer performed review: 2022-12-31 07:23

Review time: 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" 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 authors have picked a relevant topic and discussed FMT in case of CDI. A brief summary of this novel treatment option is provided in a concise way. 1. The authors have mentioned about probiotics. It will be interesting to elaborate on which bacteria have been found to be most beneficial . 2. Any geographical differences observed on the outcome of treatment 3. Long term benefits of therapy / they can discuss some long term follow up studies