

Dear Editors of *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

We appreciate your kind and instructive comments for our submitted manuscript (No.:29909, Title: "Gut microbial diversity analysis for functional dyspepsia with liver depression-spleen deficiency syndrome rat models and intervention of Xiaoyaosan using Illumina high-throughput sequencing "). Our manuscript was edited by a native English speaker. Following the comments from the reviewers, we revised our manuscript, and our replies to the comments are showed as follows.

Comments from editors:

The editors wrote that "Please use ^{a, b, c}, etc instead of *, #, etc." in the first figure statement.

*Reply: We edited figure statement by using ^a instead of *.*

Comments from reviewers:

Dear Sirs, The enclosed manuscript is interesting and worth to publish. Minor lack is missing data from Xiaoyaosan, i.e what it is, which plant?, what does it contain, how it is used etc. I have never hear such medicine, thus these information should be added. Second comment is for the used database. Greengenes is quite often used but not reliable. Silva is golden standard for data analyses. Fortunately authors report data into only phyla level so the reliability of greengenes remains OK (satisfactory level).

1. Minor lack is missing data from Xiaoyaosan, i.e what it is, which plant?, what does it contain, how it is used etc. I have never hear such medicine, thus these information should be added.

First question reply: we added the data of Xiaoyaosan according to reviewers' comment in second paragraph of introduction. The dose of Xiaoyaosan was added in part of "Establishment and validation of rat models"

2. Second comment is for the used database. Greengenes is quite often used but not reliable. Silva is golden standard for data analyses.

Second question reply: After received comments, we looked through some papers and found that Silva and Greengenes also were used for analysing at phyla level. But we will use Silva database for next work according to reviewers' comment.

Finally, all of the revisions of the revised manuscript have been highlighted in the updated version of the manuscript.

Thank you very much!

Best regards.

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