



Florence, 25<sup>th</sup> January 2020

To the Editors of World Journal of Gastroenterology

Dear Editors,

Thank you for the opportunity to reply to your comments about our manuscript submitted for publication in *World Journal of Gastroenterology* (titled “**The role of gut microbiota-immunity axis in patients undergoing surgery for colorectal cancer: focus on short and long-term outcomes**”, manuscript ID 53765). Your interest in this work is highly appreciated.

We will try to clarify all the issues raised in the emails dated January the 15<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, as follows.

#### **Reviewer#1**

*A few diagrams and table are definitely needed for this article, for example, a diagram to show the composition and interplay of GM-immunity axis; A table to show the characteristic composition of GM in healthy, CRC, and post-operation CRC persons; A diagram to depict the three pathogenetic models for happening of GM-immunity dysregulation in CRC, etc.*

**R.** As rightly by the Reviewer, we have added a Table (the Table 1 - showing the characteristic composition of GM in healthy, CRC, and post-CRC surgery patients) and three diagrams (the figures 1 displaying the interactions between the healthy or dysbiotic microbiota and immune system; figure 2 displaying the three pathogenetic models involved in colorectal cancer initiation and promotion and figure 3 illustrating some examples of how microorganisms promote the cancer).

*Be careful about the bacterial taxonomy, for example, the writing for the family genus, strain of bacteria.*

**R.** We thank the Reviewer for the suggestion. A check was performed throughout the documents and corrections were made.

*The abbreviation list is not properly selected.*

**R.** Abbreviation list was modified according to the suggestion.



**Reviewer#2**

Thank you very much for the appreciation.

All the modifications were highlighted in the text by yellow. Please notice that according to the revisions added, the number of the pages may have been changed in the new manuscript.

We are looking forward to receiving your comments about the revised manuscript.

Sincerely,

Amedeo Amedei

On the behalf of all the Authors

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