PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Clinical Cases
Manuscript NO: 76792
Title: Glucose substrate in the hydrogen breath test for gut microbiota determination: a recommended non-invasive test

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer’s code: 05086118
Position: Editorial Board
Academic degree: MBBS, MD
Professional title: Associate Professor, Research Scientist
Reviewer’s Country/Territory: India
Author’s Country/Territory: China
Manuscript submission date: 2022-03-31
Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique
Reviewer accepted review: 2022-04-18 08:13
Reviewer performed review: 2022-04-18 08:36
Review time: 1 Hour

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<th>Scientific quality</th>
<th>[ ] Grade A: Excellent</th>
<th>[ ] Grade B: Very good</th>
<th>[Y] Grade C: Good</th>
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<td></td>
<td>[ ] Grade D: Fair</td>
<td>[ ] Grade E: Do not publish</td>
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<th>Language quality</th>
<th>[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing</th>
<th>[ ] Grade B: Minor language polishing</th>
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<td>[Y] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing</td>
<td>[ ] Grade D: Rejection</td>
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<th>Conclusion</th>
<th>[ ] Accept (High priority)</th>
<th>[ ] Accept (General priority)</th>
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<td>[Y] Minor revision</td>
<td>[ ] Major revision</td>
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| Re-review          | [ ] Yes | [Y] No |


SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS
"SIBO may be caused by cirrhosis, or it could be a mechanism of gastrointestinal diseases." should be changed to "The etiology of IBO apart from cirrhosis be considered" "We recommend that investigators investigate the gastrointestinal disease ...." should be change to "We recommend investigators exclude confounding gastrointestinal diseases...."
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Manuscript NO: 76792
Title: Glucose substrate in the hydrogen breath test for gut microbiota determination: a recommended non-invasive test

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind
Reviewer’s code: 05572055
Position: Peer Reviewer
Academic degree: PhD
Professional title: Associate Professor
Reviewer’s Country/Territory: United Arab Emirates
Author’s Country/Territory: China
Manuscript submission date: 2022-03-31
Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique
Reviewer accepted review: 2022-04-21 06:58
Reviewer performed review: 2022-04-30 19:54
Review time: 9 Days and 12 Hours

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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS
In principal I agree with the suggestions provided in this letter to editor, but I have the following suggestions: 1. I agree that using glucose as a substrate is more sensitive than using lactulose as substrate in detecting SIBO, but it has been reported as well that different substrates can detect bacterial growth in different areas of the small intestine. Glucose is a sugar that is fermented in the upper (proximal) part of the small intestine; while lactulose is fermented in the lower (distal) part of the small intestine. Therefore using a combination of both could be also recommended. 2. I agree that the sample size in the study should be higher, but I recommend the authors to include a justification (or an excuse) for using this samples size, for instance, "although a larger sample size is recommended in this study, but it is worth mentioning that recruiting a high number of cirrhosis patients is difficult".