

Reviewer's report

Title: Associations between dietary habits and body mass index with gut microbiota composition and fecal water genotoxicity: an observational study in African American and Caucasian American volunteers

Version: 2 **Date:** 23 September 2009

Reviewer: Maria Carmen Collado

Reviewer's report:

Comments to the Author

The paper has been modified according to the reviewer's comments and now, its quality has been improved. The modifications suggested by the reviewers have been modified and included in this version. The manuscript entitled "Associations between dietary habits and body mass index with gut microbiota composition and fecal water genotoxicity: an observational study in African American and Caucasian American volunteers" investigates the influence on dietary habits on gut microbiota composition and cytotoxicity or genotoxicity of fecal water in order to detect differences that will give answers about the increment of colorectal cancer of African Americans compared to Caucasian Americans.

The paper is well structured and well written. Objectives are clear, concise and also, the possible application is described. Discussion has been emphasised and the content has been clarified. In addition, the potential applications of this study have been included.

The reviewed paper provides novel information and open new research possibilities in the study of dietary habits and their relationship with human health.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'