16-september-2025

Dear Prof. Shaimaa Mansour,

You submitted the manuscript ID AJGH-2507-1088, "Cross-sectional study clarifying the **possible connection Between Irritable Bowel Syndrome And Serum level Of Vitamin D**," to the African Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology. The reviewer's comments are included at the end of this email.

The reviewers have requested revisions to your manuscript.  Therefore, I invite you to respond to the reviewers' comments and revise your manuscript. Instructions on how to do this can be found at the bottom of this email.

To facilitate the timely publication of manuscripts submitted to the African Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, we kindly request that you submit your revised manuscript as soon as possible.

Once again, thank you for submitting your manuscript to the African Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology. I look forward to your revision.

Sincerely,

Salem Y Mohamed

Chief Editor, African Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology

Please revise your manuscript using a word processing program and save it on your computer.  Please also highlight the changes to your manuscript within the document using the track changes mode in MS Word or using bold or colored text.

Once the revised manuscript is ready, please send it to me via email.

When submitting your revised manuscript, please provide your responses and details of changes made to each comment in an Author Response Letter.  To expedite the processing of the revised manuscript, please be as specific as possible in your response to the reviewers.

**Reviewer Comments to Author:**

**Reviewer1:**

I read with great interest your manuscript about the relationship between IBS and vitamin D  
I think the diagnosis of IBS needs to follow recent guidelines after doing CRP, Fecal calprotectin, and excluding family history of IBD, GIT malignancy.  
It is essential to replace vitamin D in deficient patients, but its role in pathogenesis remains to be established.  
What about the follow-up of those patients? Do the symptoms improve? If yes, your study will take the first step in a new theory of IBS pathogenesis.

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**Reviewer 2: (AM)**

Please check the uploaded file.

**Reviewer3: NV**

1- You need to correct spelling, grammar, and font in your manuscript.  
2- You should remove repetition in many sections of your paper.  
3- You should change the case group to the reference group in your method, as this study didn't contain a control group, as it is a prevalence study of vitamin D deficiency.  
4- If you can do a table containing the level of vitamin D to show the severity of IBs and interpret it, it will be better.

**5-** Check the uploaded file.

**Editor Comments to Author:**

1. Please check the author names and affiliations included on your Title Page, mainly that the spelling of all authors' names is correct. They are cited in the order you wish them to appear in the final article. In addition, each author's affiliation details are correct.

2. Please include a 'Structured Abstract': not more than 250 words, broken down into, i.e., Aims, Patients & Methods/Materials & Methods, Results, and Conclusions. For authors presenting the results of clinical trials, the guidelines recommended by CONSORT should be followed when writing the abstract (http://www.consort-statement.org/), and the clinical trial registration number should be included at the end of the abstract, where available.

3. Please include up to 10 keywords in your revised manuscript (including the four keywords you selected as part of the submission process).

4. Please amend the references as per the author's guidelines:

a. References should be numerically listed in the reference section in the order they occur in the text.

b. References should appear as a number, i.e., [1, 2] in the text.

c. References should cite three authors et al.: It is our house style to list a maximum of six authors and, if there are more than this, three authors et al.

5. Please ensure all tables and boxes are titled and cited in the text. Three-line tables are preferred.

Please find a link to the African Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology Author Guidelines, which provide more detailed explanations of these sections: <https://ajgh.journals.ekb.eg/journal/authors.note>.

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