**Response letter:**

**Dear Professor,**

Thank you very much for your support.

We tried to correct all mistakes.

We will also address the questions from respected reviewers.

***Reviewer 1 :***

-I think the diagnosis of IBS needs to follow recent guidelines after doing CRP, Fecal calprotectin, and excluding family history of IBD, GIT malignancy.

Answer: Yes, you are right. We added this to our manuscript, as we had already excluded IBD and GIT malignancy; however, we forgot to include it in the section on patients and methods.

-It is essential to replace vitamin D in deficient patients, but its role in pathogenesis remains to be established.

Answer: Yes, of course. These patients suffering from vitamin D deficiency received vitamin D supplementation, but their follow-up will take a considerable amount of time. Therefore, we will include them in another research, God willing.

-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.

Answer: We will follow up with these patients after treatment with vitamin D and enroll them in another research study, as it will take an extended period.

***Reviewer 2: (AM)***

-Please check the uploaded file.

The uploaded file has been checked, and your comments have been amended.

***Reviewer3: NV***

1. You need to correct spelling, grammar, and font in your manuscript.

Answer: done

1. You should remove repetition in many sections of your paper.

Answer: done

1. 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.

Answer: Done. We divided the participants into Group I and Group II.

1. 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.

Answer: We already made a table of vitamin D levels, but we didn’t correlate it with the severity of IBS, as it is subjective and will be different for both patients and doctors

1. Check the uploaded file.

Answer: The file was checked and corrected.

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.

Answer: done

1. Please include a ‘Structured Abstract’: not more than 250 words, broken down into, i.e., Aims, Patients & Methods/Materials & Methods, Results, and Conclusions.

Answer: done

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

Answer: done

1. Please amend the references as per the author’s guidelines:
   1. References should be numerically listed in the reference section in the order they occur in the text.
   2. References should appear as a number, i.e., [1, 2] in the text.
   3. 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.

Answer: done

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

Answer: done

1. Please check the PDF file of your manuscript regarding plagiarism checking.

Answer: done

1. Please add the scale bar, annotations, magnifications, and the program used to generate these figures. Also, it is better to submit figures with high resolution and brightness.

Answer: done

Sincerely,

Shimaa mansour