

## Peer Review File

**Article Information:** <https://dx.doi.org/10.21037/jgo-23-888>

### REVIEWER A

**Comment 1:** I would recommend toning down the language to avoid overselling the data - remove adjective / adverbs like convincing / impressive

**Reply 1:** We thank the reviewer for the critical comment, and as suggested we have removed some adjective/adverbs performing some changes to ameliorate the text understanding.

**Changes in the text:** lines 64-80.

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**Comment 2:** Comment / hypothesize on the relation of streptococcus in stool vs tumor. are they the same?

**Reply 2:** In agreement with the reviewer, we discussed the link between GM and intratumoral microbiota (lines 39-41). Moreover, we stressed the hypothesis that *Streptococcus* presence in stool samples suggests that GM bacteria likely colonize intratumoral sites influencing the tumor microenvironment and progression (please see lines 92-93).

**Changes in the text:** lines 39-41; lines 92-93.

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**Comment 3:** Comment on applicability of FMT enriched with streptococcus and its safety

**Reply 3:** In agreement with the reviewer comment, we discussed the FMT enriched with *Streptococcus* and its safety.

**Changes in the text:** line 98; lines 99-102.

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### REVIEWER B

**Comment 1:** The authors are to be commended for providing commentary for this manuscript, which contributes to our understanding of cancer biology and treatment approaches. While the language and grammar are appropriate, the writing is lengthy and at times difficult to follow.

**Reply 1:** We thank the reviewer for their accurate suggestion. We performed some changes to improve the text understanding.

**Changes in the text:** lines 64-80.

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**Comment 2:** Please provide a clear structure for this commentary including sufficient background and evidence for microbiome studies, the unique biology of ESCC, and a commentary rather than a summary of the study.

**Reply 2:** In agreement with the reviewer, we have added some more background information on the ESCC characteristics (lines 21-28) and more commentary sentences (please see lines: 39-41; 92-93; 99-102). We also simplified the structure of the manuscript providing a commentary, as suggested (lines 64-80).

**Changes in the text:** lines 21-28, lines 39-41, lines 92-93, lines 99-102, lines 64-80.

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