Reviewer's report

**Title:** Abnormal fecal microbiota community and functions in patients with hepatitis B liver cirrhosis as revealed by a metagenomic approach

**Version:** 4  **Date:** 11 December 2013

**Reviewer:** Isabella Inden

**Reviewer's report:**

Major compulsory revisions

1. There is no correlation between the different viral load and the microbiota community and functions, but there is a correlation between patient and control group. The definition of the control group is only done by HBV-DNA and cirrhosis yes or no. Anti-HBc is completely ignored.

2. The relevance of the article and for the management is still poor- if there is no difference in microbiota community between the different cirrhotic causes, so the importance of the results are still circumstantial.

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

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