Reviewer's report

Title: Effects of two Lactobacillus strains on lipid metabolism and intestinal microflora of rats on a high-cholesterol diet

Version: 1 Date: 21 April 2011

Reviewer: Katsumi Imaizumi

Reviewer's report:

Major compulsory revisions
How did authors determine the LDL-C? Furthermore, The elevation of serum cholesterol in this animal model (high cholesterol diet containing cholate and propylthiouracil) is primarily attributed to the #VLDL fraction including LDL fraction. Accordingly, the authors have to modify the sentences related to the effect of diet on the serum LDL-C (pages-lines: 6-21, 10-from 3 to 11, 14-2, 14-13, 15-9, Fig 1).

Minor essential revisions
1. Authors should consider significant figures. In Table 1, the body weight gain in control rats (144.57) is written to five significant figures. This reviewer does not agree that the figure after the decimal point is meaningful in this case.
2. Throughout the manuscript, a space is required between sentences.
3. Expression of the statistical probability should be consistent (eg, p<0.05 or P<0.05).
4. page 3 lines 2 and 9. reported that? tribespeople? tribes people?
5. page 5 line 12. How much is the rat clean? Is it conventional or pathogen free grade?
7. page 15 line 14-17. The sentence dose not make sense.
8. page 20 line 12. This reference is not appropriate for the sentence in page 3, line 3.
10. Tables 1,2 and 4. Expression of the statistical difference should be consistent among the tables (a,b,c in Table 1 vs * in Tables 2 and 4).
11. legend to figure 4. May rat intestine be rat cecum?

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.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.