Reviewer’s report

Title: Oral treatment with Lactobacillus Rhamnosus attenuates behavioral deficits and immune changes in chronic social stress

Version: 1 Date: 12 Dec 2016

Reviewer: Antonio Teixeira

Reviewer's report:

The authors made clear the raised concerns, and tuned down some speculative comments. As the authors stated in their response, while they did not delineate mechanisms of action in the current manuscript, they provided interesting and promising data. It would be important to emphasize this point in the Discussion section, including limitations of the study. In this regard, the authors acknowledged the assessment of fecal microbiota instead of site-specific microbiota. Other limitations must be acknowledged (e.g. the assessment of limited immune cells lineage - T and dendritic cells - and neural pathways - CRH, GABA), along with future venues of investigation (plasma metabolome, role of the vagal nerve, etc).

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable
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