

# Review of: "Candida and Long Covid"

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**Potential competing interests:** No potential competing interests to declare.

Dear Author,

This manuscript comprehensively explores the potential link between Candida overgrowth, intestinal dysbiosis, and chronic COVID-19 (LC) and proposes a new pathophysiological model. It integrates various scientific findings from autoimmune diseases, microbiome, and LC research and presents interesting hypotheses. However, some aspects require clarification, and some claims could benefit from more evidence or context:

-Clarify the limitations and challenges of the proposed model, emphasizing the need for empirical evidence to support causal relationships. Discuss alternative hypotheses or conflicting evidence that might affect the validity of the proposed model.

-Provide empirical solid support for the gender mechanisms discussed in the paper. Clarify the amount of evidence that supports these hypotheses and acknowledge any conflicting findings.

-Discuss potential confounding factors or alternative explanations for the conflicting evidence or interpretations of the association between zonulin levels and specific diseases.

-Improve clarity using concise language and better organization, including subheading key sections.

-Provide more accurate interpretations of the data presented, acknowledging potential limitations or alternative explanations. Discuss the implications of the findings in the context of the existing literature and highlight areas that require further investigation.

-Integrate evidence more coherently to support the arguments presented in the manuscript. Provide a clearer narrative that combines different lines of evidence and strengthens the overall argument. Provide a more comprehensive signaling pathway.

Best Regards,