

Dear Editor,

Please find attached our response to reviewers, a version of our manuscript with tracked changes, and a clean copy of our revised manuscript.

We would like our manuscript to be included in The Microbiome Across Biological Systems Call for Papers collection, thank you for this.

We have also edited our competing interests statement to say:

“E.A. is co-founder of Finch Therapeutics and is on the Board of Directors of OpenBiome. C.Z, P.P, S.B, and M.O. are employed by OpenBiome. These commercial sources of funding do not alter our adherence to PLOS ONE policies on sharing data and materials.”

In this manuscript, we re-analyze previously published datasets to illustrate the donor selection framework in practice and to perform a power simulation. These previous datasets were part of peer-reviewed and formally published publications (and one is pending publication). Our analysis does not constitute dual publication because we use these datasets to illustrate our donor selection process, which represents an entirely different uses of the datasets as from the original publications. We also clearly cite these previous publications throughout the manuscript.

We have responded to the additional editor comments in the Response to Reviewers document.

Sincerely,

Eric Alm