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## Decision on your PeerJ submission: "An elucidation of the links between hormones, DNA methylation, the microbiome, and disease to restore homeostasis to each component through the genomic engineering of CRISPR microbes" (#2019:01:34525:0:2:REVIEW)

1 message

PeerJ <peer.review@peerj.com>  
Reply-to: PeerJ <peer.review@peerj.com>  
To: Tatiana Hillman <stemhill86@gmail.com>

Thu, Mar 14, 2019 at 10:47 AM

PeerJ

Dear Tatiana,

Thank you for your submission to PeerJ.

I am writing to inform you that your manuscript - [An elucidation of the links between hormones, DNA methylation, the microbiome, and disease to restore homeostasis to each component through the genomic engineering of CRISPR microbes](#) - has been rejected for publication.

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### Editor comments (Vladimir Uversky)

**REJECT**

As you can see, both reviewers have found numerous serious issues that preclude further consideration of your manuscript.

# PeerJ Staff Note - this decision was reviewed and approved by Pedro Silva, a PeerJ Section Editor covering this Section #

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### Reviewer 1 (Anonymous)

[Basic reporting](#)

This review fails to meet the basic requirements:

1. Sentences are copied directly from references - Line 34 and 35 from reference 4
2. Within the first and second paragraphs, the author has paraphrased sections from reference 4 and 6 in a way that distorts the context and the meanings of those sections as they are presented in the original articles.
3. This pattern repeats through out the manuscript making this a confusing read.
4. The author needs to re-write this, have colleagues correct/offer suggestions before submitting for publication

## Experimental design

Due to the confusing nature of the text, it is impossible to judge whether the methodology is sound.

## Validity of the findings

The author suggests in the abstract that there is a link between hormones, DNA methylation and disease with the microbiome somehow contributing to the diagnosis. This seems like a huge leap and is not adequately addressed or proved in the text. Again, the confusing nature of the text, the mixed up paraphrasing from references and lack of organization make it difficult for the reader to follow the thought processes of the author.

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## Reviewer 2 (Anonymous)

### Basic reporting

This manuscript by Hillman attempts to connect different processes (hormones, epigenetics, CRISPR, microbiome). However the paper as it stands is disjointed. The different concepts are often mixed throughout the text and numerous paragraphs are difficult to follow. In addition, the figures are borrowed from other previously published papers (I assume the author obtained permission to use these) as opposed to generating new ones for this review.

### Experimental design

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## Validity of the findings

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## Comments for the Author

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With kind regards,

[Vladimir Uversky](#)

*Academic Editor, PeerJ*

Article ID: 34525

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