**Cover letter**

**Dear Editor-in-Chief**

**Food & Nutrition Research**

Hereby it is attested that the manuscript entitled

**"The effects of orally administered *Bacillus* *coagulans* and inulin on prevention and progression of rheumatoid arthritis in rats"**

Submitted for publication in **Food & Nutrition Research** has been read and approved by all authors, has not been published, totally or partly, in any other journal and if accepted for publication in **Food & Nutrition Research**, it will not be published in any other periodicals. Besides, it is confirmed that this article has not been submitted simultaneously to other journals. I accept the liability of the scientific integrity of the manuscript contents.

**Name of the Corresponding Author:**

**Seyed Shahram Shekarforoush, Ph.D**.

Professor

Department of Food Science & Public Health, School of Veterinary Medicine,

Shiraz University, Shiraz, P.O. Box: 1731- 71345, Iran

**E-mail address: shekar@shirazu.ac.ir**