Supplementary information (Figs. S1–S3)

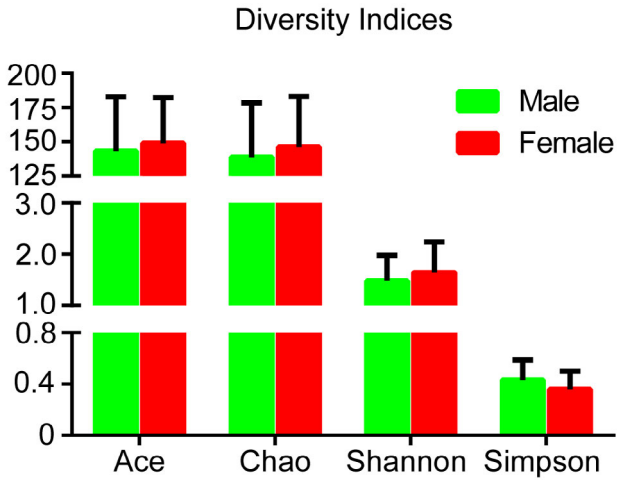

Fig. S1 Comparison of alpha (α) diversity indices (Ace, Chao, Shannon, and Simpson) between male and female subjects. Data are shown as mean±standard deviation (SD) (*n*=18 for males and *n*=17 for femals), and there is no statistical difference between male and female subjects based on the non-parametric Mann-Whitney *U* test.

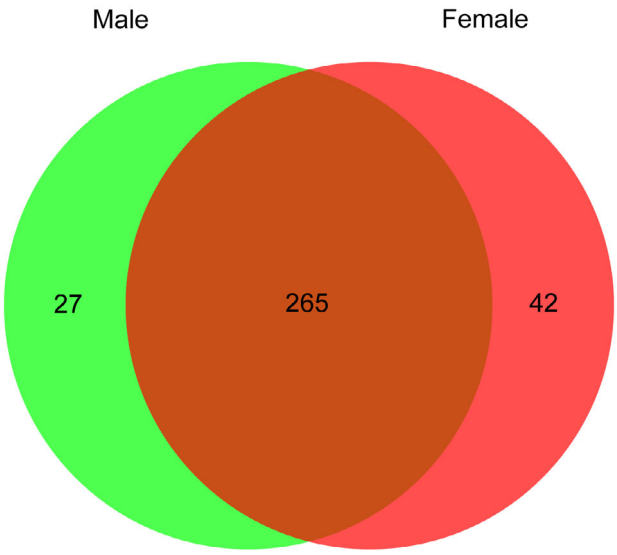

Fig. S2 Venn diagrams show the overlapping of all operational taxonomic units (OTUs) between male and female subjects, calculated at the 97% similarity level. A high degree of similarity presented between groups. Two hundred and sixty-five OTUs are shared by male and female groups, accounting for 90.8% and 86.3% of their total OTUs, respectively.

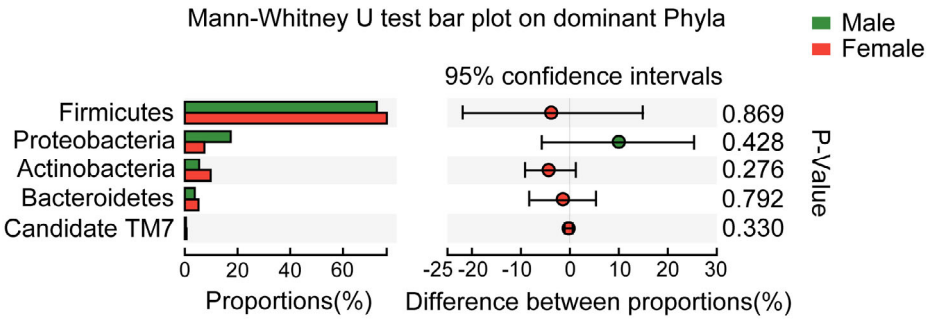

Fig. S3 Comparison in relative abundance of dominant phyla between male and female subjects. Green and red bars represent male and female subjects, respectively. Data are shown as mean±standard deviation (SD). No phylum showed a statistical difference between male and female subjects.