

## ***2 Conflict-of-interest statement***

Weersma RK is supported by Partners Seeking a Cure and a VIDI grant (016.136.308) from the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO). Other authors have no conflict of interest to declare.

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke at the bottom.

Rinse K Weersma, MD, PhD, Professor  
Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology  
University of Groningen and University Medical Centre Groningen  
Hanzeplein 1, 9700 RB Groningen  
The Netherlands.  
E-mail: r.k.weersma@umcg.nl