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Lian-Sheng MA, MD

President and Company Editor-in-Chief

World Journal of Gastroenterology

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Dear Editor,

Dear Lian-Sheng MA,

ESPS Manuscript NO: 16237

Article title: Prevalence and predictors of hospitalization in Crohn's disease in a prospective population-based inception cohort from 2000-2012

Authors: Petra A Golovics, Laszlo Lakatos, Michael D Mandel, Barbara D Lovasz, Zsuzsanna Vegh, Zsuzsanna Kurti, Istvan Szita, Lajos S Kiss, Tunde Pandur, Peter L Lakatos

Conflict of interest statement

We hereby confirm that authors have no conflict of interest regarding the study.

All authors have fulfilled the criteria of authorship and seen and approved the final version of the manuscript and they have authorized the first author to grant on behalf of all authors to transfer exclusive copyright to *World Journal of Gastroenterology* in case of acceptance.

We do hope that the new data presented could be of interest to the readers of the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,

With kind regards,

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The first signature is a stylized, cursive 'L' followed by a series of loops and a final flourish. The second signature is a similar but more compact and rounded cursive 'L' with a few loops and a final flourish.

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