



July 27, 2013

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: IBD Herbs for WJG).

Title: Induction of clinical response and remission of inflammatory bowel disease by use of herbal medicines – A meta-analysis

Author: Roja Rahimi, Shekoufeh Nikfar, Mohammad Abdollahi

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 4207

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format has been updated

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

- (1) Perhaps you would wish to comment on why some herbals give a clinical response in the face of no endoscopic or histological response.

As we have described in discussion, this may be due to short duration of studies and possible slow action of herbal medicines. Moreover, the scoring system used to assess the mucosal appearance macroscopically is prone to inter-observer variability.

- (2) Are the herbals treating coexisting irritable bowel syndrome in patients who have inflammatory bowel disease?

Yes, symptoms of IBD and IBS are almost similar but IBD is more severe. IBS can be a subject of further meta-analysis.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

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

Sincerely Yours,

Mohammad Abdollahi

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