



**PEER-REVIEW REPORT**

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 42375

**Title:** Fatigue in children and adolescents with inflammatory bowel disease

**Reviewer's code:** 00035982

**Reviewer's country:** Australia

**Science editor:** Ruo-Yu Ma

**Date sent for review:** 2018-10-23

**Date reviewed:** 2018-10-28

**Review time:** 5 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input type="checkbox"/> No

**SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

The authors reviewed patterns of fatigue in children with IBD **SPECIFIC COMMENTS**

1. The word relations in the Results of the ABSTRACT should be relationships
2. The use of subheadings in the INTRODUCTION is not standard. Suggest to remove this
3. At the bottom of page 12, a sentence concludes with the words wearable. Should this be



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followed by another word (device?) 4. at the bottom of page 13, "no" should be "not" 5.  
In the first paragraph of page 14, the letter c should be deleted 6. The titles for the figures  
and Tables could be more comprehensive

#### **INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT**

##### ***Google Search:***

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**PEER-REVIEW REPORT**

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 42375

**Title:** Fatigue in children and adolescents with inflammatory bowel disease

**Reviewer’s code:** 03254778

**Reviewer’s country:** United States

**Science editor:** Ruo-Yu Ma

**Date sent for review:** 2018-10-31

**Date reviewed:** 2018-11-02

**Review time:** 2 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer’s expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

The authors chose a clinically relevant topic, albeit a challenging one. They do a very fine job of explaining the limitations of the study and make due with limited literature. The following are specific comments to the authors, organized by paper section:  
Background In the last sentence of the first paragraph, “Is “ should be “are “. Methods



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Consider using PRISMA guidelines when reporting systematic review/meta-analysis. If PRISMA guidelines were used, please state this in the methods section. Results I have a few suggestions/needed corrections for Figure 1: list the database is and sources in the first 2 boxes. I would consider moving the “records excluded” box to come off the “papers after removal of duplicate’s “box. Additionally you have 70 included in the “paper screened on title “. The subsequent boxes do not sum to 70 (69). Please correct this. Would also consider listing the reasons Foltx articles are excluded. Have the authors considered excluding the study listed as poor quality in table 2? If there are unique properties of that study, these could be outlined in the body of the text. If there are no unique or redeeming qualities of that study, would exclude, stating so in the methods section. Where is the discussion on sleep? It is only briefly mentioned a discussion section. If many of these studies include sleep, this should be given more discussion in the result section. If sleep is not mentioned in multiple papers studied, this can also be mentioned. If possible, include in table 1. Minor typos (missing period, Extra “C”, missing comma) are found on page 14 under the headings “family support “and “psychological variables “. Please correct. Discussion Are you offering figure 2 as a model of your own, or is this a known model? Why is IMPACT III separate from KINDL/TACQOL/others in figure 2? I think Figure 2 should have more discussion in the body of the text. How is this more useful from other models? What gaps would this model address? Why do we need another model? Under “biological factors“ the first sentence starting “fatigue is a common finding “needs reference. As noted above, more discussion on sleep should be included in the systematic review. In the concluding paragraph, the authors emphatically note that increased sleeping problems and anxiety are associated with fatigue. I would recommend that more discussion be given both these topics, or the wording be changed.



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**PEER-REVIEW REPORT**

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 42375

**Title:** Fatigue in children and adolescents with inflammatory bowel disease

**Reviewer's code:** 03478404

**Reviewer's country:** Romania

**Science editor:** Ruo-Yu Ma

**Date sent for review:** 2018-10-31

**Date reviewed:** 2018-11-03

**Review time:** 3 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
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<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
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publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

There was a lot of work done with this manuscript, which is generally well written and interesting. The topic is a difficult one, but the review is quite comprehensive, useful and original. The general structure of the review was respected. Included studies are correctly described. Pity that the studies heterogeneity precluded pooling of data. Minor



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comments/suggestions: Abstract: 1. The Authors wrote: "We performed an electronic search in Medline and Embase from inception to May 2017 using the search term "fatigue" OR related keywords." Please specify related keywords. I also think that fatigue was used in combination with "IBD" and "adolescents" (at least). Please clarify. In fact, I found this in the "Methods" section. Therefore, it would not be difficult to mention more details in the Abstract as well. 2. I did not find the systematic review registration number. Background: 1. The first sentence starts with the reference nr. 6. References below 6 do not appear before. I researched and found reference nr. 1 in the Figure 2, which appears much later on (page 16). Please renumber the references accordingly, in the order they appear in the text. 2. The authors wrote "The ultimate goal in IBD treatment is to reach disease remission as early as possible." Please specify how you define remission. Methods: 1. The first heading is "Identification and selection of studies" and the second one is "Study selection". Please rename. 2. The authors wrote "We restricted our search to studies published in English only". Please insert this sentence in the Abstract as well. 3. Please insert that you used the "PRISMA guidelines" in this section and also in the Abstract. Results: 1. First paper in table 1: it is mentioned that "adolescents with IBD are fatigued , even when clinical remission is reached". Maybe this finding should be discussed/emphasized in the "Discussion", as clinical remission only is not enough for deep remission. As mentioned in Table 2, and later on in the text, only clinical remission was assessed in some of the studies. Maybe deep remission would have an impact on less fatigue. 2. Studies in Table 1 include not only adolescents, but also children aged of 6 years, 7 years, 8 years and so on. Maybe it would be better to consider this for the title and related sentences reporting on adolescents. 3. Adolescents with IBD report no more sleeping problems or overtiredness than their healthy peers (21). Another study (11) found that general fatigue and sleep/rest fatigue were frequently observed in paediatric IBD patients compared to healthy control



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subjects, even when their disease was in remission. The German study (13) reported that “a trend towards shorter duration of physical activity and significantly prolonged sleep duration in patients with mild IBD compared to controls, but there was no statistical significant difference (13)”. These observations could be commented more in depth in the “Discussion”, as the first sentence in the “Discussion paragraph” states that “This review demonstrates that fatigue, exhaustion, diminished physical activity and trouble sleeping are more common in adolescents with IBD than in healthy peers.”. About sleep, there was not always the case. 4. “The Finnish study amongst 160 adolescents used a visual analogue scale (VAS) to measure disease activity. Adolescents with severe IBD (VAS scores above 3) had significantly more trouble falling asleep (41% vs 22%), feeling overtired (80% vs 44%) and longer sleep duration than adolescents with less active disease (VAS score below 3). In this study, the results of the self-reported questionnaires and the parent reports had a close similarity when the adolescents had higher VAS scores, but this was less so in the parent-adolescent pairs with mild IBD symptoms.” Please add here reference nr 21, which is missing. General comment: The format style requested by the WJG was not used, including references. This should be corrected.

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