



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 59574

Title: Apolipoprotein E variants correlate with the clinical presentation of paediatric inflammatory bowel disease: A cross-sectional study

Reviewer's code: 01588784

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Assistant Professor, Senior Lecturer, Surgeon

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Japan

Author's Country/Territory: Poland

Manuscript submission date: 2020-09-18

Reviewer chosen by: Jia-Ping Yan

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-10-06 21:52

Reviewer performed review: 2020-10-11 08:01

Review time: 4 Days and 10 Hours

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



**Baishideng
Publishing
Group**

7041 Koll Center Parkway, Suite
160, Pleasanton, CA 94566, USA
Telephone: +1-925-399-1568
E-mail: bpgoffice@wjgnet.com
https://www.wjgnet.com

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Brief summary This paper investigated the correlation with polymorphisms in APOE genotype expression and clinical severity of inflammatory bowel diseases. The main findings are the lowest CRP value in UC patients with APOE e4 allele, and the youngest at first surgery but lowest PCDAI score in CD patients with APOE e2 allele. Although the clinical relevance may be modest, this paper firstly elucidated the genetic distribution of APOE polymorphism among the patients with inflammatory bowel diseases in young patients (aged 3-18). **General comments** Results were described in categorical variable-based orders starting with genotyping, followed by inflammation, disease localisation and behaviour, nutritional status, disease activity scales, treatment, disease severity estimates, and extraintestinal manifestations and concomitant diseases. However, going through multiple tables with different subset of patients in each section may be demanding and complicated for readers: for example, in Inflammation, serum CRP was associated with... APOEe3/e3 homozygotes (Table 3, 4, 6). Moreover, Table 3-5 compared the variables among APOE e2/e3, e3/e3 and e3/e4 whereas Table 6 compared the variables among APOE e3/e3, e2-positive, and e4-positive. The solution for the complexity may be just simply, for instance, "Table 3 shows..., Table 4 shows, or Table 6 summarised the data.... etc, so that readers can interpret the data in a step-wised manner. **Specific comments** 1. RESULTS, Genotyping: The authors compared the APOE genotypes with previous reports using Ref. 40-42, however inclusion of data from Ref. 52 was missing that showed similar distribution of APOE genotypes (e3/e3 = 63.0%) 2. Table1, 3, 4, 5 and 6: The authors are advised to indicate the number of patients included the analysis at the top of the column, so that readers can estimate the number of patients in each analysis.



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Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 59574

Title: Apolipoprotein E variants correlate with the clinical presentation of paediatric inflammatory bowel disease: A cross-sectional study

Reviewer's code: 00033034

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Greece

Author's Country/Territory: Poland

Manuscript submission date: 2020-09-18

Reviewer chosen by: Jia-Ping Yan

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-10-12 13:58

Reviewer performed review: 2020-10-12 14:46

Review time: 1 Hour

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

It is a very interesting manuscript on the hot topic of IBD epidemiology. The authors try to overcome the problem of approaching disease severity using various parameters of disease activity on their pick value. I think that it would be interesting if they could use one of the approved scales of disease severity. Otherwise, I think it would be simpler if they refer to the pick values on disease worse attack and avoid complex tables including disease presentation. Need for surgery is definitely a measure of disease severity but follow up is too short to refer to disease severity. Minor genotypes should be omitted. I am not sure that grouping of CD and UC is useful and apart from an initial comparison, separate presentation should be obligatory. Apart from hospitalisation, a comparison of number of admissions is useful. Albumin levels are not the only meter of nutritional status. Discussion should be rewritten. It should be clear if the suggestion is that apoE affects inflammation and microbiome or lipid metabolism and nutritional status. From the results, I can infer that the first suggestion is right.



RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

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Reviewer's code: 01588784

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Assistant Professor, Senior Lecturer, Surgeon

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Japan

Author's Country/Territory: Poland

Manuscript submission date: 2020-09-18

Reviewer chosen by: Han Zhang (Part-Time Editor)

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-11-19 05:31

Reviewer performed review: 2020-11-21 09:40

Review time: 2 Days and 4 Hours

Scientific quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent [] Grade B: Very good [] Grade C: Good [] Grade D: Fair [] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing [] Grade B: Minor language polishing [] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) [] Accept (General priority) [] Minor revision [] Major revision [] Rejection
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous [] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [] Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS



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The authors have sufficiently revised the manuscript in accordance with the reviewers' suggestions. This is a scientifically valuable research.