

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS



January 6, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 7031-review.doc).

Title: Association of *NOD2/CARD15* gene polymorphisms in Chinese Zhuang patients with Crohn's disease

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Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 7031

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) We have performed a deeper analysis compared to previous studies. Thank you for the reviewer's constructive advice. However, in view of the lower incidence of IBD in Asia than in Western countries, the specimens are very precious, and we were unable to collect more samples in the short-term.

(2) We have added the recommended reference to the Introduction (V. Gr. Khor B, Gardet A, Xavier RJ. Genetics and pathogenesis of inflammatory bowel disease. *Nature*. 2011;474:307-17).

(3) The manuscript was sent to the "Jing-Yun Ma Editorial Group" for correction of grammatical errors.

(4) The sentence "All of the patients had a well-established diagnosis of UC or CD, according to standard clinical criteria based on endoscopic and histopathologic examinations" was replaced with the following sentence: "All patients had a well-established diagnosis of UC or CD based on the modified criteria framed by the World Gastroenterology Organization in 2010[20]".

(5) The sentence in the Material and Methods section: "There were no significant differences in age or sex between the study group and the control group" was moved to the Results section and more details were added.

(6) The Results have been described again with more links to tables and figures.

(7) The Discussion section has been enriched with specific data on the cited articles. We also performed more comparisons with previous data to support the validity of our data.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

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

Sincerely yours,

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