

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 45118

Title: Conventional therapy for moderate to severe inflammatory bowel disease: A systematic literature review

Reviewer's code: 03027040

Reviewer's country: Italy

Science editor: Jia-Ping Yan

Date sent for review: 2018-12-29

Date reviewed: 2018-12-29

Review time: 8 Hours

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input checked="" 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 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

Dear Authors, it was a pleasure to review your paper. Although recent trends in medical therapy of IBD tend to prefer biologic therapies in moderate-severe disease, it is a good point to underline that these new therapies are not available homogeneously all over the



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world. Therefore it is important to evaluate the efficacy of conventional therapy. As conventional therapies are usually related to specific side effects, it could be interesting to add if any adverse events and side effects were analyzed in the included studies, especially in long term therapy for maintenance of remission. Even though only a few studies were eligible, therefore there is a paucity of data, it is an overall good work.

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

Google Search:

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 45118

Title: Conventional therapy for moderate to severe inflammatory bowel disease: A systematic literature review

Reviewer's code: 00505564

Reviewer's country: United States

Science editor: Jia-Ping Yan

Date sent for review: 2018-12-29

Date reviewed: 2018-12-30

Review time: 15 Hours

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Damião AOMC et al. is a systematic review assessing the effectiveness of conventional therapy for mild to severe inflammatory bowel disease (MS-IBD). This is an interesting meta-review unveiling the advent of biological drugs versus conventional therapy which



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continue to be used in managing mild to severe inflammatory bowel disease, especially in countries where biosimilar and biologic agents are not covered by insurance, therefore many patients in need cannot afford such costly treatment. Admittingly, authors point out that there are few studies covering objective outcomes, especially for remission maintenance, mucosal healing and fecal calprotectin. Such few studies are mainly of very low to moderate quality. As conventional therapy is usually the main therapy for mild to severe inflammatory bowel disease and biosimilars/biologics are used in patients who fail to respond to conventional drugs, robust studies are required to further an understanding of the effectiveness of conventional therapy because it is prescribed to many IBD patients. In conclusion, the authors noted that high-quality evidence assessing conventional therapy in MS-IBD treatment is scarce, especially for remission maintenance, mucosal healing and fecal calprotectin. I find this review, especially the approach used for meta-analysis for primary outcomes (qualitative review data) interesting, informative and of educational values.

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[Y] No

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 45118

Title: Conventional therapy for moderate to severe inflammatory bowel disease: A systematic literature review

Reviewer's code: 02549032

Reviewer's country: Greece

Science editor: Jia-Ping Yan

Date sent for review: 2018-12-29

Date reviewed: 2018-12-30

Review time: 2 Hours, 1 Day

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input 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
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publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input checked="" 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

This is a review article on conventional treatment for moderate to severe inflammatory bowel disease (MS-IBD) based on variety of diverse and different instruments for measuring clinical disease activity in both CD and UC. The main conclusion is a negative



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one that finally there are no many well-conducted studies (only 2 studies reported), with mucosal healing as endpoint outcome. Some major issues: 1. The authors include both CD and UC in this review. It would be advisable to separate these two diseases, as the instruments for measuring disease activity are different. 2. The authors used as study outcomes: <<clinical remission>> and <<clinical response>>. The difference is not clarified. Clinical response means clinical induction? or maintenance therapy? after initial control of active disease? Both can be overlapped. This is confusing. 4. Some minor grammatical mistakes eg: <<In page 12, 2nd paragraph a grammatical mistake <<rately referenced by treatment guidelines. Therefore, we believe that tacrolimus use should..>>.

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