

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS

Date 22-10-2014



Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 11911).

Title: Distinctive inflammatory bowel disease phenotype in primary sclerosing cholangitis

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Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 11911

First of all we would like to thank all the reviewers for their comments. The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1. the reference citation was reviewed and layout was changed according to WJG's format including PMID and DOI.
2. the manuscript was thoroughly reviewed for errors in grammar and spelling. Revision was performed by authors who have longstanding experience with scientific publications in the English language. We therefore consider the manuscripts language evaluation to be grade A.
3. Performing a meta-analysis of the available data was suggested. We thank the reviewer for the suggestion and agree that a meta-analysis for the different characteristics of IBD in PSC could yield valuable results. Aim of our study however was to perform a descriptive review to assess and summarize important characteristics of IBD in PSC and its differences from regular IBD to strengthen the assumption of a PSC-IBD "phenotype". Furthermore we think that a thorough and meaningful statistical comparison or meta-analysis of clinical features is severely hampered by the currently limited available data and large variation of collection methods and statistical parameters between studies. We therefore consider an in-depth meta-analysis of the currently available data beyond the scope of the current review.

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

Sincerely yours,

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