

July 7, 2015

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format.

Title: Antibiotics for Treatment of Inflammatory Bowel Disease

Author: Orna Nitzan, Mazen Elias, Avi Peretz, Walid Saliba

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 18346

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

Response to reviewers:

Reviewer 1:

It is nicely written review. Authors need to present the data in tabular form and classify the studies according to quality and comment about the utility of these findings in clinical practice.

Response: The paper that we were asked to write was a review of the role of antibiotics in the treatment of inflammatory bowel disease. We were not requested and it was not our intention to write a meta-analysis or a systematic review on this subject, but only to present the current data on the subject and the pros and cons of such treatment. Therefore, we did not classify the studies according to quality.

We added in the summary (lines 443-446): " It is important to define the indications for antibiotic treatment in IBD in order to reduce unnecessary treatment that may lead to increased antibiotic resistance of intestinal flora, and in the intention of optimizing treatment." In order to comment on the utility of these findings in clinical practice.

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

Sincerely yours,

Walid Saliba

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