

Reply to reviewer's comments

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We thank the reviewers for their positive comments on the paper. We have modified the manuscript as per the reviewer's suggestions and highlighted the changes in the manuscript. Please find point by point reply to reviewer's comments.

Reviewer 1

- Low dose oral curcumin is not effective in induction of remission in mild to moderate ulcerative colitis: results from a randomized double blind placebo controlled trial" is a well- designed clinical study which highlights the fact that low dose of curcumin is not of any therapeutic benefit to patients suffering from UC and clearly shows that oral curcumin at a dose of 450 mg a day was ineffective in inducing remission or attaining clinical response. The most important take home message is that. Higher doses with effective modes of delivery are required for optimal efficacy of curcumin Thus publication of this finding will encourage researcher to device advanced drug delivery strategies for delivery of curcumin to achieve desired therapeutic benefit to the patients suffering from UC.

Reply: We thank you for your encouraging comments

- The authors need to add some information regarding colon targeting strategies

in UC and how advanced drug delivery systems can improve the outcome for patients.

Reply: We have added this information in the discussion (Page 17, Line 1 from above).

- There are several typos and some grammar mistakes, if advise the authors use editorial software such as grammerly to rectify these mistakes.

Reply: We acknowledge your suggestion and have modified the English language of the manuscript using grammerly.

Reviewer 2

The study is of significance but the sample contents are relative small, which is recommended to expand twice.

Reply: We agree with the reviewer's comment. However, when this study was conceived, there was no previous study, and therefore we could not calculate the sample size. Therefore, we had conducted this trial as an exploratory pilot trial.

Reviewer 3

The oral bioavailability of curcumin is very low. Why don't you use an enema or a stuffed anus? **Reply:** We have already published a randomized trial on curcumin enema which showed efficacy as an add on therapy over oral 5-ASA in patients with mild to moderate UC¹. We have mentioned in the discussion (Page 15, Line 12 from above).

1. Singla V, Pratap Mouli V, Garg SK, et al. Induction with NCB-02 (curcumin) enema for mild- to-moderate distal ulcerative colitis - a randomized, placebo-controlled, pilot study. *J Crohns Colitis*. 2014;8:208-14