March, 2017

Dear Editor in Chief,

Thank you for your constructive comments on our manuscript entitled, **"The Short Health Scale: A valid measure of health-related quality of life in Korean-speaking patients with inflammatory bowel disease"**. We have tried all our best to correct our manuscript as was suggested by the reviewer. Specific details of the corrections are attached. Please find attached file entitled 'Answering reviewers' letter.

Looking forward to hearing from you soon,

Yours sincerely,

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Point by point response to Evaluation

Thank you for your considerate review of our manuscript. Each of your suggestions and comments is addressed below.

Reviewers' Comments to Author:

<Reviewer #1>

Your manuscript is well-written and I have no comments except you have not followed the WJG instructions regarding Format for references.

Response: Thank you for your comment. We revised the format for references according to WJG instructions in the revised manuscript.

<Reviewer #2>

This is a study assessing the validity and reliability of SHS in Korean patients. The study is interesting and have included a large number of patients. The main limitations of the study is that correlation is not a good method of comparing a measurement of the same dimension. Both the total score for SHS and IBDQ in CD and UC as well as reliability should be also presented as Bland–Altman plot.

Response: Thank you for your valuable comment. As SHS is four simple 100mm visual analogue scale, each score is range from 0 to 10 and total score is range from 0 to 40. However, 32-item IBDQ is seven-point scale and collects data on four dimensions, including bowel symptoms, social function, emotional function, and systemic symptoms. Each dimension of IBDQ included the 10, 5, 12 and 5 questions

and each score is range from 10-70, 5-35, 12-84 and 5-35 respectively. Total score of IBDQ is range from 32 to 224. As the range of each/total score was different between IBDQ and SHS, we used Spearman's rank correlation coefficient rather than Bland-Altman plots as previous studies which investigate correlation between IBDQ and SHS, after consulted to statistical department. When we performed Bland–Altman plot for total score of SHS and IBDQ in CD and UC, mean difference was -24.04 (95% CI -27.79 to -20.298) and -22.188 (CI -25.79 to -18.58) respectively. The mean difference was -2.81 (95% CI -15.55 to 9.94) in the reliability. Thus, we added the sentence in the METHODs as follows "For test-retest reliability, total score was analyzed using the Bland–Altman plot." and added the sentence in the RESULT as follows "In the Bland–Altman plot, mean difference was -2.81 (95% CI -15.55 to 9.94) (Supplement figure 1)" and added supplement figure 1. Bland–Altman plot for test-retest reliability.