

## ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastrointestinal Pharmacology and Therapeutics

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 32821

**Title:** 5-ASA to maintain remission in crohn's disease: Interpreting conflicting systematic review evidence

**Reviewer's code:** 01221925

**Reviewer's country:** Greece

**Science editor:** Yuan Qi

**Date sent for review:** 2017-01-28 20:11

**Date reviewed:** 2017-01-30 05:14

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is an interesting paper trying to identify the reasons for the differences seen in the use of 5-ASA as a way to maintain remission in Crohn's disease, depending on whether that remission was medically or surgically induced. Could the authors please respond to the following questions/comments? 1) In an effort to explain the differences between the medically and surgically induced remission cases and the use of 5-ASA to maintain those, the authors mention "It is therefore possible that in the post-surgical setting, the patient has been reverted to a more disease naïve state within the remaining bowel, which due to pre-surgical medical management, is most commonly in a remission state. This issue of clinical heterogeneity between the patient groups may explain why post-surgery evidence demonstrates efficacy of 5-ASA agents." As reasonable as this sounds, one could counter argue that the patients that had to undergo surgery had a more advanced state of the disease (thus having complications necessitating surgery) and as such it would be less responsive to 5-ASA post-surgically. 2) The authors mention that one way to deal with the differences in the length of remission between the different types of patients (in terms of how that remission was achieved) it



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may be useful to establish the severity of the disease with endoscopic or histologic scoring. Could the authors elaborate on the different types of disease severity based on these types of scoring, maybe with a table. 3) The authors raise several methodological issues, even with Cochrane database papers, and it may be useful to elaborate a bit more on those, as this is an important point in this paper.

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**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastrointestinal Pharmacology and Therapeutics

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 32821

**Title:** 5-ASA to maintain remission in crohn's disease: Interpreting conflicting systematic review evidence

**Reviewer's code:** 01557050

**Reviewer's country:** Japan

**Science editor:** Yuan Qi

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CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
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<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
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		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

1) General comments Dr. Gordon reported 5-ASA to maintain remission in Crohn's disease: Interpreting conflicting systematic review evidence. The article is informative and well-presented. The reviewer has some comments. 1. The author should show any tables or figures, then the reviewer can understand what the author would like to say most.