

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 45823

**Title:** Transitions of care across hospital settings in patients with inflammatory bowel disease

**Reviewer's code:** 00503405

**Reviewer's country:** Hungary

**Science editor:** Jia-Ping Yan

**Date sent for review:** 2019-01-18

**Date reviewed:** 2019-01-19

**Review time:** 17 Hours, 1 Day

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

### SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In this observational study the authors highlight that in the UK IBD patients turn to multiple providers on several levels, which does not necessarily affect their treatment in the most favorable direction. Their results speak for themselves, their conclusions are



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moderate. Possible methodological errors are interpreted with due care. I suggest to accept the manuscript for publication.

#### **INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT**

##### ***Google Search:***

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

##### ***BPG Search:***

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 45823

**Title:** Transitions of care across hospital settings in patients with inflammatory bowel disease

**Reviewer's code:** 03478404

**Reviewer's country:** Romania

**Science editor:** Jia-Ping Yan

**Date sent for review:** 2019-01-18

**Date reviewed:** 2019-01-20

**Review time:** 11 Hours, 2 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

### SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Without any doubt, this retrospective observational study at a national level represents a very interesting paper, analysing frequency and location of accident and emergency, inpatient and outpatient encounters for IBD patients within NHS England, with the aim

of emphasising the proportion of people transitioning from the 'home provider'. The title, abstract and the whole structure of the manuscript are well chosen and written. Results were also focused on presenting "regional differences in 'home provider' attendance", "type of specialty services accessed by IBD patients" and "age-related differences in patient events", which are very important. Discussion paragraph is nicely written, including "strengths and weaknesses of study". Figures are illustrative. The style required by the WJG was followed. Definitely, a very good paper, which required a lot of work. Some minor comments: 1. In the Abstract, it is mentioned: "Adult patients with a diagnosis of IBD following admission to hospital were followed over a 2-year period to determine the proportion of care accessed at the SAME hospital providing their outpatient IBD care, defined as their 'home provider'". Since the next sentence presents the "Secondary outcomes measures", the reader can assume that the previous sentence refers to the "primary outcome". However, in the "Material and Methods" - it is written "The primary outcome measure was the proportion of adult IBD patients in England that access services from providers OTHER than their 'home provider'. Please clarify and correct. 2. In the "Introduction", The authors wrote "Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) comprises the chronic relapsing inflammatory disorders Crohn's disease (CD) and ulcerative colitis (UC)[1]." Does it mean that patients with IBD-U were not included in this study? They account for 10-15% of all IBD cases. From "Material and Methods" it seems they were included (according to the code). Please clarify and correct, with inclusion of IBD-U, if that is the case. 3. For the sentence "Furthermore, many IBD patients require care for extra-intestinal manifestations of disease[9][10][11]" - please insert the ECCO Consensus reference: "Marcus Harbord Vito Annese Stephan R. Vavricka Matthieu Allez Manuel Barreiro-de Acosta Kirsten Muri Boberg Johan Burisch Martine De Vos Anne-Marie De Vries Andrew D. Dick Pascal Juillerat Tom H. Karlsen Ioannis Koutroubakis Peter L. Lakatos Tim Orchard Pavol Papay Tim Raine Max



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Reinshagen Diamant Thaci Herbert Tilg Franck Carbonnel for the European Crohn's and Colitis Organisation [ECCO]. The First European Evidence-based Consensus on Extra-intestinal Manifestations in Inflammatory Bowel Disease. Journal of Crohn's and Colitis, Volume 10, Issue 3, 1 March 2016, Pages 239-254, <https://doi.org/10.1093/ecco-jcc/jjv213> 4. The authors wrote: "1,466,155 of 1,760,156 (83.3%) IBD patient encounters were with the 'home provider'". However, the authors concluded that "Transitions of care between secondary care settings are common for patients with IBD." Why? Please explain. In the Discussion, the same result is commented and admitted as a majority: "A majority of patients accessed accident and emergency, inpatient and outpatient care through the same 'home provider' that they attended for gastroenterology outpatient care."

## INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

### *Google Search:*

- ☐ The same title
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- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

### *BPG Search:*

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 45823

**Title:** Transitions of care across hospital settings in patients with inflammatory bowel disease

**Reviewer's code:** 02535507

**Reviewer's country:** Italy

**Science editor:** Jia-Ping Yan

**Date sent for review:** 2019-01-18

**Date reviewed:** 2019-01-24

**Review time:** 9 Hours, 6 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

### SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In this retrospective study, Warren et al demonstrated that inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) patients tend to "migrate" towards different hospitals and centers of care in England (phenomenon of "transition" according to the definition of the Authors). Main



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comments: 1) In the last paragraph of the Results section, it would be interesting to investigate whether patients with extra-intestinal manifestations may show a more enhanced fragmentation of care than those with IBD alone. 2) Figure 2 distinguished between low and high providers. Did Authors choose a cut-off to define these categories? 3) In table 1, it is important to report the range of home provider proportions. 4) It would be interesting to know whether care dispersion may depend on the mean number of patients followed per care center: please discuss. 5) Care fragmentation may lead to worse IBD clinical outcome (as recently demonstrated in Cohen-Mekelburg S et al, Am J Gastroenterol 2018 in press), however this point was not discussed enough in the appropriate section. 6) Care fragmentation was higher in Greater London than in peripheral centers. This issue was not commented in the Discussion paragraph.

## **INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT**

### ***Google Search:***

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### ***BPG Search:***

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- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 45823

**Title:** Transitions of care across hospital settings in patients with inflammatory bowel disease

**Reviewer's code:** 02941672

**Reviewer's country:** Japan

**Science editor:** Jia-Ping Yan

**Date sent for review:** 2019-01-18

**Date reviewed:** 2019-01-26

**Review time:** 15 Hours, 8 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

### SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The author had revealed that the attending difference for hospital service in IBD patients. The results from this study may contribute to improve accessibility to hospital in IBD care, however, they are specific to UK and cannot be applied to other countries.





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Moreover, the specific solutions are not clearly mentioned. Though this study is retrospective observational study using large national patient data set, analysis by severity will be supportive at actual situations.

#### **INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT**

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##### ***BPG Search:***

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- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 45823

**Title:** Transitions of care across hospital settings in patients with inflammatory bowel disease

**Reviewer's code:** 00044509

**Reviewer's country:** Japan

**Science editor:** Jia-Ping Yan

**Date sent for review:** 2019-01-18

**Date reviewed:** 2019-01-29

**Review time:** 8 Hours, 11 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
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publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

### SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

1. The most distinctive feature of this study is that the status of patients with IBD depends largely on the UK medical system. In other countries, if a patient develops eye or skin disease, the doctor of gastroenterology will decide whether to treat the patient as



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a GP or refer it to a specialist. And when referring to a specialist, the gastroenterologist will state the letter of reference responsibly. Therefore, this analytical result seems to be difficult to apply to other countries. 2. "All of the 20 providers with lowest proportion of IBD patients attending that provider of healthcare were located in major metropolitan centers." "Younger patients had a significantly lower proportion of care events with their 'home provider'." These results apply to all patients with intractable diseases, not particularly the characteristics of IBD patients. The author should discuss the IBD specific problem a little more.

#### **INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT**

##### ***Google Search:***

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##### ***BPG Search:***

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- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No