

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 52433

**Title:** Trends and risk factors of elderly-onset Crohn's disease: A nationwide cohort study

**Reviewer's code:** 01436308

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Associate Professor

**Reviewer's country:** China

**Author's country:** South Korea

**Reviewer chosen by:** Jin-Zhou Tang

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2019-11-26 05:01

**Reviewer performed review:** 2019-12-06 14:15

**Review time:** 10 Days and 9 Hours

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 type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
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

Moon et al. investigated the trends and environmental risk factors of Crohn's disease

diagnosed in persons aged >40 years in South Korea. They found four risk factors including ex-smoking, anemia, CKD, and lower BMI, and three possible protective factors (alcohol consumption, physical activity, and dyslipidemia) for Crohn's disease age > 40 years. The study is interesting and the manuscript is well-written. My comments are listed below: 1. Not all variables were included in the multivariate analysis. The authors should explain why they choose the listed risk factors, not the others for the analysis? Other variables, such as blood sugar, dietary intake nutrition ratio, and platelets, may be also associated with risk of Crohn's disease. 2. The authors stated that smoking, anemia, CKD, and lower BMI were risk factors, while drinking, physical exercise, and dyslipidemia were protective factors. Is this appropriate? Actually, whether these factors are the causes or consequences of Crohn's disease remains uncertain. For example, Crohn's disease may induce anemia and low BMI as well. 3. Is it possible to perform a subgroup analysis of the severity of Crohn's disease to enrich the conclusions?

## **INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT**

### *Google Search:*

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

### *BPG Search:*

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