

Biostatistics statement

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Title: **IL-6 compared to the other Th17/Treg related cytokines in IBD and CRC**

Manuscript Type: **Basic Study**

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Triplicated PCR samples were analyzed by Sequence Detection System (SDS) software v.1.3.1., and the results for mRNA expression were obtained by performing the comparative threshold cycle (CT) $\Delta\Delta C_t$ method, after normalization to the endogenous control (as a ratio target mRNA/18S ribosomal RNA). Relative quantification analysis (RQ) represents n-fold mean difference relative to a calibrator (adjacent normal intestinal tissue). Results for local gene expression analyses were expressed as means \pm standard deviation. Cytokine levels were presented as a median and interquartile range (25th percentile and 75th percentile). Statistical differences between groups were analyzed using T-test or Mann-Whitney U-test. A value of $p < 0.05$ was considered significant. Statistical analysis was performed by using StatSoft software v.6. Lyuba Miteva and Spaska Stanilova performed the statistical methods of this study. Dr. Tsvetelina Velikova, who is also an expert and certified biostatistician from the University Hospital Lozenetz, reviewed the statistical analysis and confirmed that statistical methods are adequately and appropriately described when they are used to verify the results; analytical techniques are suitable or correct; the data is presented as required by the Baishideng Publishing Group (BPG) directives, and the word “significantly” is replaced by its synonyms (if it indicates extent) or the P-value (if it indicates statistical significance).

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