



## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 57661

**Title:** Crohn's disease in low and lower-middle income countries: a scoping review

**Reviewer's code:** 02978709

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MBChB, MSc, PhD

**Professional title:** Academic Research, Doctor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Denmark

**Author's Country/Territory:** United States

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-06-19

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2020-06-22 06:57

**Reviewer performed review:** 2020-06-23 05:59

**Review time:** 23 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS



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This review is needed to construct a picture about Crohn's disease in LLMICs. The authors made a good effort. Few points to be addressed: 1. Introduction: the first five lines are redundant as readers know them. 2. Method: why the authors excluded studies not in English? it is about LLMICs so all studies must be included regardless language. You can find abstracts in English and if needed, the study can be translated. Looking at PRISMA it seems that only 3 studies were not in English! 3. Results: What you present in tables no need to be written in the text. Many of the information in the results section are repeated. 4. Discussion: more focus on the study results. Best wishes



## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 57661

**Title:** Crohn's disease in low and lower-middle income countries: a scoping review

**Reviewer's code:** 00503437

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** PhD

**Professional title:** Professor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Israel

**Author's Country/Territory:** United States

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-06-19

**Reviewer chosen by:** Jia-Ping Yan

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2020-08-02 08:21

**Reviewer performed review:** 2020-08-02 08:49

**Review time:** 1 Hour

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS



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This is an unusual study which goes far to fill in a serious gap in our knowledge of inflammatory bowel disease in a host of third world countries/poorer countries. The authors are to be commended for their efforts. I have just a few comments. 1 I suggest you explain the World Bank criteria and not just reference them. 2 While tuberculosis is a major problem in the differential diagnosis of Crohn's disease in these countries, you should mention also ulcerative colitis. What steps were taken to distinguish UC from CD? You noted that the commonest surgery for CD was colectomy. Please explain this in more detail. 3 How many of the referenced studies were true epidemiological studies? For instance, you quote reports from referral hospitals or hospitals with the facilities to establish the diagnosis of CD with certainty. Did these centers perform proper epidemiological studies? 4 In order to put your findings into perspective, would you be able to calculate incidence estimates and compare them with reports from higher income countries in the same geographical areas? For example, if you used south Korea as a comparison with other Asian countries. Also, some south American countries have published a lot on IBD epidemiology lately; how would their data look compare with your findings?



## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 57661

**Title:** Crohn's disease in low and lower-middle income countries: a scoping review

**Reviewer's code:** 05099197

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** PhD

**Professional title:** Professor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** China

**Author's Country/Territory:** United States

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-06-19

**Reviewer chosen by:** Jia-Ping Yan

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2020-08-04 00:50

**Reviewer performed review:** 2020-08-04 04:09

**Review time:** 3 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS



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Crohn's disease is a chronic inflammatory disease of the gastrointestinal tract. It might result from a complex interplay between genetic susceptibility, environmental factors, and altered gut microbiota, leading to dysregulated innate and adaptive immune responses. It has emerged in newly industrialized countries and has evolved into a global disease with rising prevalence in every continent. Understanding the worldwide epidemiological patterns of IBD will prepare us to manage the burden of IBD over time. Crohn's Disease has been studied extensively in high-income countries, but its epidemiology and care in low and lower-middle income countries (LLMICs) is not well established due to a lack of disease registries and diagnostic capacity. It has great significance to describe the published burden, diagnostic and treatment capacity, service utilization, challenges and barriers to individuals with Crohn's in LLMICs and their providers. The comments suggest as follows: 1. reference 14 should be (Am J Gastroenterol. 2019 ;114(1):107-115.). 2. There are too many illustrations and tables in the article, please simplify them and express them in words if possible.



## RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 57661

**Title:** Crohn's disease in low and lower-middle income countries: a scoping review

**Reviewer's code:** 00503437

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** PhD

**Professional title:** Professor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Israel

**Author's Country/Territory:** United States

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-06-19

**Reviewer chosen by:** Le Zhang

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2020-09-07 04:36

**Reviewer performed review:** 2020-09-07 05:01

**Review time:** 1 Hour

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

### SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

1 Thank you for your responses. 2 I return again to the sentence: "The most frequently



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discussed Crohn's surgery overall is colectomy..." This is the commonest operation in UC, whereas in CD you would expect ileal resection, ileo-cecal resection (perhaps extended to right hemicolectomy), but not "colectomy" except perhaps in carcinoma complicating colonic CD, which is unusual of itself, and more so in lower income countries. As you say, this is how the data were reported. However, I suggest you point out in the discussion that some of these cases with colectomy could have been UC. 3 In the abstract: "We conducted a scoping review utilizing a full search strategy was developed and conducted in PubMed, Embase and WHO Global Index Medicus." The sentence structure is incorrect. I suggest: We conducted a scoping review utilizing a full search strategy that we developed and performed in PubMed, Embase and WHO Global Index Medicus.