

Professor Lian-Sheng Ma
Science Editor, Company Editor-in-Chief, Editorial Office
Baishideng Publishing Group Inc
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Dear Professor Lian-Sheng Ma,

Please find enclosed the revised version of our manuscript "How to Manage Inflammatory Bowel Disease During the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Guide for the Practicing Clinician" (NO: 63074), with modifications according to the reviewer's comments. The modifications are highlighted in red in the body of the manuscript, and in tables.

REVIEWER'S COMMENTS:

#1 reviewer: Specific Comments to Authors: In this paper, the authors reviewed an overview and practical and detailed guideline for management of patients with IBD in the COVID-19 era in detail. This paper is well written and the contents of the paper are timely and interesting. I would like to make a few suggestions to the authors. 1) It appears that the text is a little too long. If possible, I suggest that the text should be shorten. 2) Review the format of references.

Authors: Dear reviewer #1, we would like to thank you for your comments. We agree that the manuscript was too long. Thus, we excluded the section: GASTROINTESTINAL SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19. Now the manuscript is with 8277 words. We also formatted all references accordingly.

#2 reviewer: Specific Comments to Authors: 1) General comments Dr. Júlio Maria Fonseca Chebli and Dr. Rogério Serafim Parra, et al. reviewed 'How to Manage Inflammatory Bowel Disease During the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Guide for the Practicing Clinician'. The article is informative and well presentation. The reviewer has no comments.

Authors: We would like to thank you the careful analysis and the revision.

#3 reviewer: Specific Comments to Authors: This is a very good review about the topic. It is well written. But I have some comments on the manuscript. These comments make it very valuable. These are indicated as below: 1) The first paragraph needs some research findings and citations about the spread of COVID-19 (also indicated in the manuscript) 2) Some words are rewritten.

Authors: We would like to thank you for your important comments. We have added information and one new reference in the first paragraph and corrected the words that were rewritten.

#4 reviewer: Specific Comments to Authors: good work

Authors: Thank you.

#5 reviewer: Specific Comments to Authors: The manuscript is very interesting and topical. It deals with the currently very important issue – IBD management during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Manuscript is well structured and well written. It provides in detail valuable information for clinicians. However, there are some statements than need reconsideration and improvement. For instance: - Section WHAT IS THE RISK OF SARS-COV-2 INFECTION IN THE IBD POPULATION? line 233 you wrote: «Thus, although there is limited evidence available, it seems that patients with IBD are not at greater risk of acquiring COVID-19, and SARS-Cov-2 infection does not seem to be more prevalent in patients with IBD than in the general population.” Such conclusion or statement may be too early to conclude. It is very likely that patients with IBD (as a group at higher risk of complications) were more self-protective and thus the results should be taken with caution! Future studies, with more patients will provide more data. See also Conclusion line 1244

Authors: Dear Reviewer 5, we appreciated your important contribution in revisions our paper. We have made the corrections in this section and

highlighted in red.

- Section GASTROINTESTINAL SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19: this section is written in a way that the reader can get an impression that gastrointestinal and other organ symptoms are more important than respiratory ones. Please be careful with passing the information about gastrointestinal symptoms and other organs involvement (liver, pancreas etc). Please provide clear sentences when gastrointestinal symptoms are a complication of COVID19 respiratory symptoms and observed in hospitalized COVID19 patients with pneumonia and clearly separate this information from gastrointestinal symptoms that were found as the only symptom of coronavirus positive patients that did not need hospital treatment. Please go through the first part of this section (line 254-266) there are some sentences that need additional explanation and improvement accordingly. - Line 330 : respiratory tract flora: change flora with microbiota - Line 346: please explain in the text of the manuscript what you mean by “ACE2-mediated direct viral infection” for hepatic injury? After reading the whole manuscript, I find the first part of the manuscript very good with the exceptions of one section particularly section GASTROINTESTINAL SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19 from line 253 - 362, which it seems that it does not fit well in this manuscript. The information in this section are interesting but are not properly associated in the context of the manuscript. So I wonder, why all this information was placed in the text if are not explained in the context of the aims of the manuscript - if authors think that all information in this section are needed for the understanding of the article, then they need to add additional text and explain it clearly. Otherwise may cause more confusion than benefit.

Authors: Dear reviewer 5, we agree with you and we excluded the section GASTROINTESTINAL SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19.

- Line 454: please explain in the text of the manuscript what you mean by the term “the outpatient with IBD” (see also Tabel1, Tabel2, Tabel3)

Authors: Dear reviewer 5, we have made all these corrections (highlighted in red).

In general, manuscript explains in detail how to manage IBD patients (many kinds of possibilities that can occur, including vaccination) in COVID19 pandemic. Manuscript will be of great help for clinicians in current situation.

Authors: Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Júlio Chebli, Rogério Parra and colleagues.