

Dear Editor,

Many thanks for giving us the opportunity for our paper "**Orphan patients in Inflammatory Bowel Disease - when we treat beyond evidence**" to be considered for publication in World Journal of Gastroenterology.

We also wish to thank the reviewers for their time and effort. We went through your suggestions and we are now ready to submit a revised version of the manuscript.

Please, find a point by point answer to all addressed issues:

The authors perform an excellent review of a number of conditions that are not fully explored through clinical trials. These would be: chronic refractory pouchitis or isolated proctitis in ulcerative colitis, short-bowel syndrome and stomas in Crohn's disease, or ileorectal anastomosis in both ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease. Perhaps it would be interesting for the authors to add and revise a condition that is also orphaned from clinical trials. These are the very elderly patients with inflammatory bowel disease.

Authors' reply: We thank the reviewer for her/his suggestions. We added a paragraph on the use of biologics in elderly IBD patients. Unfortunately, there were not enough data to write an entire paragraph on the "very elderly" population, but we included the evidence currently available.