

January the 14th, 2014

Dear Dr. Qi,

We thank the editors and reviewers for the comments on our manuscript entitled Therapeutic Drug Monitoring in Patients with Inflammatory Bowel Disease (ESPS Manuscript NO: 6965). We are pleased to submit the revision attached with this letter and a "point-by-point" answer to the reviewer comments.

- Reviewer number 1:

Manuscript is clear to understand the discussed issues easily. What I can offer is to add some reviews about the diagnostic utility of tandem MS for these drugs and their metabolites in routine clinical practice. Regards.

We thank you for your comments. This is an important issue and is discussed in the manuscript. Further studies will be needed to answer many of these questions.

- Reviewer number 2:

This is a review article. The author reviewed the metabolism, the mechanism of the refractory treatment and the methods to overcome the treatment ineffectiveness. The article was well organized and well written and covered the topics. It is acceptable for publication. In page 12, line 3, "would not explain the rise in 6-TG.....". Should it be "6-TGN"?

We deeply appreciate your feedback. We corrected all the misspelled "6-TGN". Of note, in the manuscript, we also used other abbreviations starting with 6-TG (6-TGMP: 6-thioguanine monophosphate; 6-TGDP: 6-thioguanine diphosphate; 6-TGTP: 6-thioguanine triphosphate).

- Reviewer number 3:

Reference list not included could you include that in standard format please?

The standard reference list for the journal was now used. Thank you for the clarification.

We again thank you for the reviews and hope you can consider this revised version in your journal.

Sincerely,

Andres J. Yarur, MD
University of Miami Leonard Miller School of Medicine
Division of Gastroenterology

1120 NW 14th Street
Clinical Research Building 350 (D-49)
Miami, FL 33136
Email: ajyarur@gmail.com