

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

Manuscript NO: 89751

Title: Recent Trends in the Epidemiology and Clinical Outcomes of Inflammatory Bowel Disease in South Korea, 2010–2018

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 02954961

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Associate Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: United States

Author's Country/Territory: South Korea

Manuscript submission date: 2023-11-11

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2023-11-15 02:08

Reviewer performed review: 2023-11-15 02:24

Review time: 1 Hour

Scientific quality	<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 Grade E: Do not publish
Novelty of this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No novelty
Creativity or innovation of this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No creativity or innovation

Scientific significance of the conclusion in this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No scientific significance
Language quality	<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
Conclusion	<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
Re-review	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	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

excellent article. appears to be an overlap with previously published data, but has a larger window.

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Reviewer's code: 05109599

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: South Korea

Manuscript submission date: 2023-11-11

Reviewer chosen by: Jia-Ru Fan

Reviewer accepted review: 2023-12-08 15:29

Reviewer performed review: 2023-12-09 16:02

Review time: 1 Day

Scientific quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input 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
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	Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

1. This study provides the latest trends in the epidemiology and clinical outcomes of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) in South Korea, which is important for understanding the development of IBD in specific regions of Northeast Asia. Given that the incidence and prevalence of IBD is on the rise in Asian countries, this study contributes to a better understanding and response to this trend by public health policy makers and medical professionals worldwide. 2. The results of the study showed that the incidence of UC (ulcerative colitis) has continued to increase in Korea, while the incidence of CD (Crohn's disease) has stabilized since 2014. This finding may indicate differences in epidemiologic characteristics and potential risk factors for different IBD subtypes, which could be instructive for future prevention and treatment strategies. 3. The study also observed an increase in the proportion of patients using immunomodulators and biologics over time, in parallel with a decrease in the proportion of hospitalizations and surgeries. This trend may reflect changes in IBD treatment strategies and their impact on clinical outcomes, providing valuable data for evaluating the long-term effects of new treatments. Also in this study, it was observed that the peak age of onset of ulcerative colitis (UC) has



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shifted to a younger age group, i.e., from patients in their 50s to those in their 20s. The trend may be related to dietary habits and lifestyle factors such as increased eating out, takeaway food, and increased consumption of coffee and sugary drinks. It may also be related to the decline in natural green spaces and increased time spent in urban living and working environments. With improvements in health care in recent decades, the rate of endoscopy among young people may have increased, thus improving the rate of early diagnosis of UC. Suggestions: 1. For the definition and assessment of clinical outcomes, it is recommended that a more objective and standardized approach be used, for example, through a detailed review of medical records to identify IBD-related emergency room visits, hospitalizations, and surgical events. 2. For a better understanding of the treatment effects of IBD, it is recommended that indicators such as disease activity and quality of life, as well as long-term follow-up data, be included in future studies to assess the impact of treatment strategies on patients' long-term health.