



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 57487

Title: Identification of differentially expressed genes in ulcerative colitis and verification in a colitis mouse model by bioinformatics analyses

Reviewer’s code: 01219902

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer’s Country/Territory: Japan

Author’s Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2020-06-10

Reviewer chosen by: Jia-Ping Yan

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-07-06 00:41

Reviewer performed review: 2020-07-13 06:20

Review time: 7 Days and 5 Hours

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 Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" 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



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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors identified a group of core DEGs related to UC. This Ms is potentially informative and helpful for the management of UC. I have a few comments about it.

<Major> #According to the text, the paper should have 'Figure 5'. But according to the Ms file I have downloaded, it is nowhere found. I wonder if this is really missing or this is only a careless mistake. If this Ms is to be published, 'Figure 5' should be placed in the right place.

#Figure 3, HE: The HE photos of higher magnification need to be shown for both blank and colitis mice to clearly show the absence/presence of neutrophilic infiltration, cryptitis, and/or crypt abscess.

<Minor> #Tables 2, 3, 4, 5 'P-value': In the columns of 'P-value', there are many descriptions like '#E-#'. In understand that this kind of 'P-value' is just what the computer or software shows on the screen. But I guess, for most of the readers, this kind of descriptions of 'P-value' makes no sense. As long as these tables are about the genes tagged with $P < 0.05$, these columns of 'P-value' can be omitted.

#The last sentence of the DISCUSSION, 'However...future': This sentence makes no sense, which is just a useless excuse. This should be erased.

#There are a number of grammatical errors or clumsy, 'difficult-to-understand' sentences throughout the text. Please check the Ms again and have it proofread by professionals.

Ex #Abstract > background > line 1; a kind of inflammatory bowel disease > a kind of inflammatory bowel diseases

#Abstract > background > line 4: unsatisfactory specificity > an unsatisfactory specificity?

#Abstract > background > line 4: bioinformatics analysis > a bioinformatics analysis?

#AIM: To identify by bioinformatics analysis and in vivo verification UC-related > To identify, by bioinformatics analysis and in vivo verification, UC-related?

#INTRODUCTION, line 4-6, 'Because...Organization': This sentence is structurally wrong and cannot be understood.

INTRODUCTION, line 22-23, 'however...ignored': This sentence is hard to understand in this context.

#etc, etc,



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etc...



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Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 57487

Title: Identification of differentially expressed genes in ulcerative colitis and verification in a colitis mouse model by bioinformatics analyses

Reviewer's code: 02545023

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Associate Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: United States

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2020-06-10

Reviewer chosen by: Jia-Ping Yan

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-07-05 13:11

Reviewer performed review: 2020-07-20 20:15

Review time: 15 Days and 7 Hours

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
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
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript by Lei, Yu, etc sought to identify critical genes involved in the pathogenesis of ulcerative colitis (UC). They used bioinformatics tools to analyze 2 publicly available microarray datasets (GSE92415, GSE87466) for cores genes involved in UC and verified in vivo via DSS-colitis mouse model. Major concerns: 1) The author should clearly describe how they analyzed the microarray data. By using GSE92415, the authors stated that there were 162 UC samples. However, those samples were from both TNF-a inhibitor-treated and placebo-treated UC patients. Moreover, the response of the patients also varies. In the manuscript, it seems all those samples were combined and re-analyzed as "UC". In this case, the result did not correctly reflect UC vs. healthy conditions. 2) The authors stated in the 'Methods' portion that they used 3.5% DSS to establish the colitis model, while in the discussion the DSS concentration was 4%. They need to be consistent. 3) The authors stated that they verified the transcription levels of CXCL13, NYP1R, and CXCR2 by qPCR using mouse colon tissues, rather than mucosa tissues which were used in the published microarray datasets. The mouse colon tissues contain submucosa, the muscle layer, and subserosa. The authors need to make it clear in their manuscript. 4) Please provide the full name of the abbreviations while they appear for the first time in the manuscript such as BP, CC, and MF. 5) The authors cited Figure 5 in the text but the figure was missing. Minor concerns: -. In Abstract, AIM: "To identify by bioinformatics analysis and in vivo verification" should be corrected as "To identify by bioinformatics analysis and in vivo verification of". -. In Abstract, CONCLUSION: "these reactions are core pathogeneses in UC" should be corrected as "these reactions are core features of UC pathogenesis". -. And other grammatical errors throughout the text.