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Flat C, 23/F., Lucky Plaza,  
315-321 Lockhart Road,  
Wan Chai, Hong Kong, China

## ESPS Peer-review Report

**Name of Journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 7321

**Title:** Need for Infliximab Dose Intensification in Patients with Crohn's Disease and Ulcerative Colitis

**Reviewer code:** 02548901

**Science editor:** Gou, Su-Xin

**Date sent for review:** 2013-11-14 11:07

**Date reviewed:** 2013-11-16 19:35

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B (Very good)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C (Good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: a great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This article addresses an important topic and to my mind may be the first to do so. I have only minor suggestions to strengthen the article. Regarding methodology - was institutional approval obtained? There are minor spelling errors throughout that could be resolved with a spell-check. Discussion: Two points should be referenced to provide a balanced appraisal - firstly, evidence is emerging that other modalities (cyclosporin - Chag et al, Int J Colorectal Disease, 2013), can be equally as efficacious as infliximab with certain advantages over it. I think this point should just be referenced. Also, genetic heterogeneity plays a major role in determining outcomes (responsivity to treatment, see Solon et al, Infl Bowel Disease, 2013) and although this study is not powered and designed to deal with this point, I think it should also be referenced, at least to balance the overall discussion.



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**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 7321

**Title:** Need for Infliximab Dose Intensification in Patients with Crohn's Disease and Ulcerative Colitis

**Reviewer code:** 00722601

**Science editor:** Gou, Su-Xin

**Date sent for review:** 2013-11-14 11:07

**Date reviewed:** 2013-12-04 03:45

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B (Very good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C (Good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: a great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)		<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is an interesting and well written article. Minor revision: - Describe "response to induction doses" criteria. - Indicate "p" value in the phrase "The rate of infliximab dose intensification per patient-month was not significantly different between perianal and luminal Crohn's disease". - Because a high proportion of patients with ulcerative colitis is treated with infliximab because of steroid-refractory ulcerative colitis, could be interesting to show in the results, point "Predictors of the need for infliximab dose intensificatio" that there wasn't found a relation between this indication and the outcomes.



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**Name of Journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

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**Title:** Need for Infliximab Dose Intensification in Patients with Crohn's Disease and Ulcerative Colitis

**Reviewer code:** 02520845

**Science editor:** Gou, Su-Xin

**Date sent for review:** 2013-11-14 11:07

**Date reviewed:** 2013-12-11 18:03

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B (Very good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C (Good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: a great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)		BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	

### COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

ESPS Manuscript NO: 7321 Title: Need for Infliximab Dose Intensification in Patients with Crohn's Disease and Ulcerative Colitis  
General comments The investigation has profound therapeutical implication highlighting the problem of intensification of infliximab in both forms of inflammatory disease, Crohns disease and ulcerative colitis incorporating the administration cost as well. Specific comments Title: It reflects the major topics and contents of the study. Abstract: It gives a clear delineation of the research objective and the results. Material and methods: The study design, criteria for dose intensification, administration cost and outcomes are well described but the number of patients is not stated (it is mentioned in the results section). Appropriate statistical methods are selected and made. Results & Discussion: The data is clearly presented and the discussion is well organized. Tables & Figure: Reflects the major findings. In conclusion, this is a very interesting research.



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**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 7321

**Title:** Need for Infliximab Dose Intensification in Patients with Crohn's Disease and Ulcerative Colitis

**Reviewer code:** 02520511

**Science editor:** Gou, Su-Xin

**Date sent for review:** 2013-11-14 11:07

**Date reviewed:** 2013-12-16 23:04

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B (Very good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
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<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

well-done and well-written. Congratulations! Major comments: Need for dose escalation is higher in UC. This likely represents the fact that UC is a completely different entity than Crohn's. The fact that colectomy is a viable option for UC patients might have affected the treating physician's judgement whenever a UC patient had a need for dose escalation (vs Crohn's). Also, in your cohort, it appeared that UC patients were sicker (higher proportion with need for steroids at baseline). This was evaluated in multivariate analysis and appears non-significant on its impact on dose escalation. However, the low "n" could have affected statistics. - Please consider adding to the paper how many patients with UC ended up requiring colectomy, if such data is available. Minor comment: Under "Discussion" 4th paragraph: 3rd line from the end of the paragraph: "significantly" should be replaced by "significant".



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**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 7321

**Title:** Need for Infliximab Dose Intensification in Patients with Crohn's Disease and Ulcerative Colitis

**Reviewer code:** 01489500

**Science editor:** Gou, Su-Xin

**Date sent for review:** 2013-11-14 11:07

**Date reviewed:** 2013-12-17 01:40

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B (Very good)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
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<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is a well-written original article about the need for infliximab dose intensification in patients with CD and UC. I think it can be published after few points are addressed. INTRODUCTION, LINE 2: and it is indicated instead of that is... Methods, criteria for dose intensification, paragr 3: "the presence of" is not needed. Discussion, first paragraph, line 2: rephrase to dose intensification between patients with ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease.... Discussion, 2nd paragr, line 2: correct reference number of Gisbert et al. Discussion, paragr 4, line 6: therapeutic approach and furthers our understanding? please revise as it makes no sense. Discussion, paragr 5, line 10:thought to arise from instead of because.