

ESPS PEER REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS manuscript NO: 12767

Title: Clinical response and predictors of efficacy after initial treatment with corticosteroid for Chinese patients with ulcerative colitis

Reviewer code: 02919155

Science editor: Jin-Lei Wang

Date sent for review: 2014-07-28 11:09

Date reviewed: 2014-08-08 17:00

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"/> Existing	<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	BPG Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input type="checkbox"/> Existing	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This paper describes the results of a Chinese multicenter study evaluating the effectiveness of steroid therapy in patients with moderate to severe ulcerative colitis and investigating predictive factors for effectiveness and the development of steroid dependence after 1 year of treatment. It is therefore very interesting. Many studies have reported the treatment outcomes of new drugs for ulcerative colitis. Recently, however, few studies have examined outcomes of steroid therapy. Steroid preparations continue to be used for the treatment of active ulcerative colitis throughout the world. Because this paper focuses on the efficacy of steroid therapy and the development of steroid dependence, the most important problem associated with steroid therapy, it is considered very meaningful. I would like to make the following comments regarding this paper. 1) As for the structure of the paper, a table showing the results of analysis of the study was placed in the middle of the Discussion section. Although the results of analysis are explained, I have the impression that it is very difficult to understand. The results of analyses should be described in the Results section. 2) As for the results of blood tests, hemoglobin and albumin levels are expressed as "g/L," whereas these values should be expressed in conventional units of "g/dL." 3) The manuscript describes treatment outcomes after 1 month and 1 year of steroid therapy. The description and assessment of outcomes after 1 month of treatment are inadequate. If the authors would like to focus on treatment outcomes after 1 month and 1 year of steroid therapy, outcomes after 1 month of treatment should be described and



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discussed in more detail. If the focus of the paper is treatment outcomes and the development of steroid dependence after 1 year of treatment, the title and other details should be revised. I believe that this paper provides valuable information about steroid therapy for active ulcerative colitis. The authors should therefore reconsider the points described above to make it a more valuable paper.