

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Pharmacology and Therapeutics*

Manuscript NO: 75432

Title: Overweight and abdominal fat are associated with normal bone mineral density in patients with ulcerative colitis

Provenance and peer review: Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 03029494

Position: Associate Editor

Academic degree: DSc, FEBG, MD, PhD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Canada

Author's Country/Territory: Brazil

Manuscript submission date: 2022-01-28

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-01-29 00:19

Reviewer performed review: 2022-01-29 00:41

Review time: 1 Hour

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input checked="" 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 Grade E: Do not publish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 type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [<input checked="" type="radio"/>] Anonymous [<input type="radio"/>] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [<input type="radio"/>] Yes [<input checked="" type="radio"/>] No
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Authors investigated predictors of bone mineral density in a small cohort of patients with UC. Comments; 1. The authors performed a very basic analysis of socio-ethnic, disease related factors on the prediction of the prevalence and risk factors for low bone mineral density. 2. The topic is not novel at all, the paper does not add to the current literature. 3. The authors did not give details on how T/Z-scores were calculated, the reviewer assumes that this reflects data relative to the available Brazilian control population (different for males and females?), please give details on this 4. In addition, it would be important to know how osteopenia and/or osteoporosis was defined, based on T -scores reflecting femoral neck-spine or total body? 5. The associations should be unfortunately separately studied in males and females and preferentially pre- and post-menopausal populations for obvious reasons, otherwise the conclusions might be biased by gender and/or premenopausal state 6. Student t-test is not appropriate for studying this small patient cohort, at least a T-test with separate variance estimates would be needed 7. The English is unfortunately poor with basic grammatic errors, on top authors did not pay attention to careful proofreading, multiple Brazilian expressions remained in the manuscript/Tables

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Title: Overweight and abdominal fat are associated with normal bone mineral density in patients with ulcerative colitis

Provenance and peer review: Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05320909

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Associate Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Iran

Author's Country/Territory: Brazil

Manuscript submission date: 2022-01-28

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-02-06 14:29

Reviewer performed review: 2022-02-08 11:34

Review time: 1 Day and 21 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
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Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input 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

- In introduction, please add a sentence or two describing the abdominal fat in association with UC. - What was the rationale for not using a control group in the study? (Major concern). - How was the UC activity determined? Authors no mention of which symptoms were representative of active disease. Also, there are validated clinical scores to determine activity, and authors should mention their reason for not using them. - UC is a disease that requires clinical, endoscopic, and histological criteria to be fulfilled. What was the rationale for not using a validated Histological score? - In Materials and Methods, lines 32 to 35, the sentence should be corrected." For statistical analysis, they were separated into two groups, with excess weight (BMI ≥ 25.0 kg/m²). - Please determine the reference for normal range of Calcium and albumin concentration. -In Materials and Methods, Please provide the full name of the manufacturer's instructions or companies. - The conclusion is very brief. This section requires a more accurate comparison as well as the comparison of collected data.

RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

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Title: Overweight and abdominal fat are associated with normal bone mineral density in patients with ulcerative colitis

Provenance and peer review: Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 03662955

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Chief Physician, Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: Brazil

Manuscript submission date: 2022-01-28

Reviewer chosen by: Li-Li Wang

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-04-29 08:49

Reviewer performed review: 2022-04-29 10:09

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
Language quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input 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 type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Peer-reviewer	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous

statements

Conflicts-of-Interest: [] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors have responded to the reviewers' questions and revised their manuscript based on the reviewers' comments. But there are still some problems to be solved: 1. I did not find the tables and figure mentioned in the text in the submission. Please check it. 2. In addition, healthy controls were matched with UC patients as described in the study design. However, the specific matching ratio and matching method were not provided. And there were 68 UC patients and only 66 healthy controls in the result. So I think the study design is confusing.

RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

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Reviewer's Country/Territory: Canada

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Review time: 1 Hour

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
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Peer-reviewer	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous



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statements

Conflicts-of-Interest: [] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The revised manuscript is improved, yet, the cohort size and messaging is not providing anything novel over the existing literature and the impact of the paper due to the very small cohort size is minimal