

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS



March 24, 2013

Dear Editor,

Thank you very much for the interest in our work and giving us the opportunity to revise our manuscript. Please find enclosed the revised manuscript in Word format (file name: 2185-revision.doc).

Title: Crohn's disease complicated by intestinal infection with methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*

Author: Dominik Bettenworth, Tobias M Nowacki, Alexander Friedrich, Karsten Becker, Johannes Wessling, Jan Heidemann

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 2185

We appreciate the constructive reviewers' comments which will help to improve the quality of our paper. After carefully reading we feel able to fully respond to the critique. We hereby guarantee that our manuscript was read and approved for Grade A English language.

1 Was the patient on medication and treated with immunosuppressives / corticosteroids before this hospital transfer and duration (eg. prev. maintenance dose, and duration of treatment in the previous hospital)

Since our patient was transferred to our clinic with a *preliminary* diagnosis, no neither immunosuppressive treatment nor steroid medication was commenced. This fact has been added to the manuscript (page 4).

2 How many biopsies were positive for MRSA, any indication of heavy/ scanty growth, and any other concomitant bacterial organisms (as this was from gut). Was the patient on antibiotics at all when the specimens were taken?

Four biopsies were tested for growth of MRSA and all were positive, but no heavy growth was detected. At the time the biopsies were taken, the patient did not receive any antimicrobial treatment at all. This information was included into the manuscript (page 5).

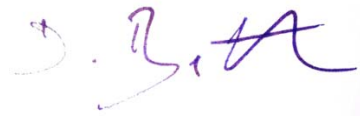
3. Did the patient get decolonization therapy for MRSA? How and when were rescreening of MRSA performed and what method was used (eg. PCR / enrichment broth)?

The patient did receive decolonization therapy for MRSA combined with antimicrobial treatment and steroid medication. MRSA rescreening by nasal swabs was performed and analyzed by polymerase chain reaction just before follow-up colonoscopy was performed, showing negative results. This information is now included in the manuscript (page 5f.).

In addition, the format of authorships was changed appropriately and the title was shortened according to the format guidelines and editor's suggestions. Furthermore, a short passage for the Core tip was incorporated and the format of the citations within the text was adjusted. Finally, the figures were added separately into the word document and a main title for figure 1 was added (page 11).

Thank you very much for considering our manuscript for publication in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'D. Bettenworth', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dominik Bettenworth, MD

Department of Medicine B

University of Münster

D-48149 Münster

Germany

Phone: +49-251-83-47661

Fax: +49-251-83-47570

E-mail: dominik.bettenworth@ukmuenster.de