

## ANSWERING REVIEWERS



**Title:** What is left when anti-tumour necrosis factor therapy in inflammatory bowel diseases fails?

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The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format has been updated

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

The author thanks the reviewers for their comments. In view of these no changes have been made to the manuscript

Reviewers' comments

1.

The present is a very interesting and very well written paper dealing with a problems that researchers and clinicians often forget while using biologic therapies for IBD: biologic treatments can fail in a significant number of patients and once you have used the strongest drug available you can have a lot of problem to further treat your patient. In the first part of the paper, the author analyzes in a realistic way which is the failure rate of biologic therapy and which are the most common causes to stop the treatment, i.e. failure, loss of the effect over time, and side effects. In the second part, the author describes the different drugs that can be used once biologic therapy fails. The drug are described in this context in an objective and complete way with their potential advantages and shortcoming. I enjoyed the present paper which offers to the readers with a number of useful information and is likely to guide the physician in the decision when biologic therapy fails

2.

The manuscript provides a thoughtful discussion of the alternative therapies for IBD when the use of anti-TNF $\alpha$  agents is no longer feasible. The presentation provides a sensible guide to the readership as to the available options when the situation necessitates cessation of the anti-TNF $\alpha$  therapy. Good job !

3.

none

3 References and typesetting were corrected

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

