

**ANSWERING REVIEWERS**

REFEREE CODE 00008134

We are grateful to this referee for his appreciative words. He requests us to further inform the reader of the costs of mostly used IBD treatments. We have done that at the end of the text, with an added sentence and a new reference.

REFEREE CODE 00029041

This referee correctly notes that we had failed to mention and comment on the cost of biologics for IBD. On pages 7-8 of the new version we are now fulfilling this requirement; we have included two of the references suggested by the referee, and a new one, which in our opinion helps better interpret the meaning of the other two. We thank the referee for giving us this chance to implement our work.

REFEREE CODE 00033010

This referee criticizes the brevity and inadequacy of the abstract: now an exhaustive sentence has been added to increase abstract clarity and specificity. On page 5 we now cite a freshly published extensive review on antibiotics to add to what we already wrote on ornidazole. On page 7, we simply cite a very recent comparison of cyclosporine vs infliximab, witnessing that one matches the other for treatment of severe colitis; nowhere else do we allude to cyclosporine indications for Crohn's nor to the use of the oral formulation. The referee correctly noted the paucity of references in the concluding paragraph: we have now added two new quotations. We appreciate the final referee's note that this is a good quality text.

A GENTLE NOTE TO EDITOR:

Changes required by the Revising Editor appear **in blue**; Changes wanted by the referees **are in red**