Reviewer's report

Title: Long-term follow-up with leukocytapheresis re-treatment in patients with chronically active inflammatory bowel disease

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Reviewer: Abbi Saniabadi

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Manuscript number 1290099603578712 by DR Lindberg and colleagues, title: Long-term follow-up with leukocytapheresis re-treatment in patients with chronically active inflammatory bowel disease.

1. In this manuscript, DR Lindberg and colleagues describe an innovative therapeutic intervention which they have used in patients with inflammatory bowel disease, a debilitating chronic condition that afflicts millions throughout the world. Essentially, it is a non-drug based therapeutic intervention which is most intriguing. As virtually all known drugs used to treat gastrointestinal disorders can cause serious adverse side effects, the strategy described here should be most welcomed by both the physicians and patients. Further, none of the hitherto reports has efficacy outcomes over a long period of time. Therefore, the long-term observations by the authors should benefit the impact of this report as well.

The manuscript is well written throughout.

2. My information suggests that the GMA used in this study removes myeloid lineage leucocytes (granulocytes and monocytes), regulatory lymphocytes are spared. Accordingly, the title of this paper should read better as: “Long-term follow-up with Granulocyte and Monocyte Apheresis re-treatment in patients with chronically active inflammatory bowel disease.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

This is an academic report and in my view, the only beneficiaries are the patients and the physicians in the area dealt with. This has been the basis of my evaluation.