Reviewer's report

Title: The Frequency Of Microscopic And Focal Active Colitis In Patients With Irritable Bowel Syndrome

Version: 3 Date: 2 August 2011

Reviewer: Darren Brenner

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for the time and effort you have put into revising this manuscript. I believe this is a much clearer version worthy of publication. I have only a few additional comments

Minor Essential Revisions:

1. Study limitations: This needs to be broadened. I appreciate that you comment on the differences in age gender but I would appreciate if you would state why these differences are important and why the % of women w/IBS enrolled was so low. Is this commen from trials in Turkey as it is uncommon in trials in the USA.

2. Introduction: In the sentence on the prevalenc of IBS being 7.4-19.1% I would comment that this is the prevalence in Turkey

3. Materials and Methods: I appreciate the categorization of IBS patients as per Rome III subclassifications; however, the criteria you use to define IBS-D/M/C are not per Rome III. I would change the "according to Rome III" to modified Rome III

4. Materials and Methods: Are per my prior question re: alarm symptoms you reference the Olden paper. While this was an excellent paper for its time there have been subsequent studies. I would recommed that you modify the table such that it is more consistent with the data from the ACG EBM statement which is your citation #33.

5. Results: At the end "there was no significant differnce among the incidence of FAC..." this is placed prior to the actual data. I would move this sentence below the next sentence starting with "FAC was found in 6.6%...

6. Discussion: You refernce the Chey study on colonoscopy and note that alternative diagnoses were identified in 1.9% of IBS patients. Please clarify this as non-constipated IBS patients.

7. Discussion: 3rd paragraph 1st word: Microscopic misspelled. Please correct.

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:**
I declare I have no competing interests.