Reviewer's report

Title: Long-term efficacy of infliximab for refractory ulcerative colitis: Results from a single center experience

Version: 2 Date: 12 January 2014

Reviewer: Krisztina Gecse

Reviewer's report:

Major Comments
1. It is methodologically questionable to include the patients in the study who only received one single dose of anti-TNF and were followed-up for several years to assess the long-term efficacy of infliximab. Furthermore, more than half of these patients were “non-responders” to an IFX single dose, thus received tacrolimus during follow-up and the colectomy-free rate was calculated at 87 months. Therefore, I would strongly recommend excluding the patients from the study that received one single those of IFX.

Minor Comments
1. The number of patients included in the study is rather small for a 10-year period, altogether 31 patients completed induction treatment with IFX. Providing a sentence about anti-TNF regulations in Japan would be useful.
2. Please provide details about the duration of IFX maintenance treatment and about the timing of relapse in the 17 responders that received dose intensification.
3. English language needs refinement, e.g.: colon cancer instead of colitic cancer; ‘thiopurine agents’ require the use of plural on Page 5; please rephrase sentence on Page 18, Line 7, etc.
4. Reference list needs refinement, e.g.: Page 4, Line 12, sentence refers to the ACT trial, which does not match the reference; Page 4, Line 9 reference missing; etc..

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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

Declaration of competing interests:
I have receives speakers' honoraria from MSD.