Reviewer's report

Title: Efficacy and safety of infliximab induction therapy in Crohn's Disease in Central Europe - a Hungarian nationwide observational study

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Reviewer: Johanna Escher

Reviewer's report:

The authors did a fine job collecting the data on efficacy of infliximab induction therapy from all over Hungary. It is however one of the many reports on infliximab that have been published in the past years. I think the paper can improve by doing some essential revisions based on the comments below:

Major:

1. The report is aimed only at induction treatment, but data collection was done in a 6-year period. It should be possible to give some information about maintenance treatment, even given the fact that some patients were not allowed to get it for financial reasons. A flowchart with numbers of patients going into maintenance treatment and duration of remission would improve the paper significantly.

2. The study is partly retrospective, partly prospective. The authors should in the discussion elaborate on the effect this may have on data collection (bias? better reporting of side effects, etc).

3. The authors need to describe in more detail the indication for infliximab treatment. For instance, how do they define refractory disease both when it is luminal but also fistulas (the majority of patients).

4. Quite a few post-surgical patients were included, they represent a different group and should be mentioned in the tables as well

Minor:

1. response rate in fistulizing disease: it seems that two different definitions are used (50% closure or number of discharging fistulas compare to baseline)

2. tuberculosis: explain the policy in Hungary about doing (or not doing) a PPD before starting IFX

3. in the results, the better response rate in younger patients is mentioned twice on consectuive pages.

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

**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 that I have no competing interests