Reviewer's report

Title: Dynamics of Vitamin D in Stable Patients with Inflammatory Bowel Disease and their Families

Version: 2 Date: 4 October 2013

Reviewer: Andrew S Day

Reviewer's report:

This manuscript has been improved following revisions and attention to previous comments.

1. The authors have revised the title of their manuscript - however, elsewhere the term stable IBD persists in many parts of the manuscript. Further, the Methods makes a vague comment that subjects were "generally" in remission. I would suggest that the words "with mild or inactive" is taken from the title. Also careful and consistent wording will be important through the manuscript. The addition of a definition for stable IBD is helpful

2. Unfortunately, there are numerous errors of English wording or grammar in the new (yellow-highlighted) text. These need attention. As do errors in the existing text.

3. In regards the use of family members: were all members of each family recruited? did the subjects chose which family members were included? Bias can be introduced at these and other levels in regards control selection.

4. Although numbers were small, did disease activity affect vit D status in the subjects?

5. The inclusion of CRP is a good addition.

6. "precipitation" of IBD (Abstract) may not be the best term.

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

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I DECLARE THAT I HAVE NO COMPETING INTERESTS