Reviewer's report

Title: p53 expression in patients with ulcerative colitis - associated with dysplasia and carcinoma: a systematic meta-analysis

Version: 1 Date: 06 Jul 2017

Reviewer: Julajak Limsrivilai

Reviewer's report:

I would like to thank the authors for addressing my comments on the previous version. I have a few remaining comments.

1. I commented that some eligible patients (patients with UC and had P53 evaluation) were not included in this meta-analysis because they were reported in the articles including both Crohn's disease and UC. The author responded to this comment by stating in the limitation that "Finally, three eligible studies reported the data between p53 expression and dysplasia and cancer in patients with IBD [43-45], more studies with large sample sizes are essential to further perform a meta-analysis to assess the correlation of p53 expression in IBD in the future.". In my opinion, the limitation is that the author could not include all UC patients who had p53 evaluation because the studies reporting p53 expression in IBD did not report the results of UC and Crohn’s separately.

2. The author used Newcastle-Ottowa scale in evaluation of the quality of the included studies, and added the total scores in Table 1, but without the detail of the score in each category. It would be better to show the complete results in another table, possibly as a supplementary document.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes
Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal