Author’s response to reviews

Title: Risk Factors and Long-term Outcome of Disease Extent Progression in Asian Patients with Ulcerative Colitis: A Retrospective Cohort Study

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editor,

We are most grateful for the time and care the editor and reviewers spent for improving our manuscript.

Please find below the point-by-point responses to your comments.

Yun Qiu, MD, PhD; Ren Mao, MD, PhD

On behalf of the author team

BMGE-D-18-00335R2
Dear Dr. Mao,

Your manuscript "Risk Factors and Long-term Outcome of Disease Extent Progression in Asian Patients with Ulcerative Colitis: A Retrospective Cohort Study" (BMGE-D-18-00335R2) has been assessed. I am pleased to inform you that it is potentially acceptable for publication in BMC Gastroenterology, once you have carried out some essential revisions:

1. Overlap

We note that the current submission contains some textual overlap with other previously published works, in particular:


https://academic.oup.com/ecco-jcc/article/9/2/147/440072


This overlap is mainly in the Background, Methods, Discussion and Conclusions sections of your manuscript.

While we understand that you may wish to express some of the same ideas contained in these publications, please be aware that we cannot condone the use of text from previously published work.

Please rephrase these sections to minimise overlap.

If this study uses methodology from a previously published work, please provide a summarizing statement in the methodology together with a citation to the original paper.

RE: We have rephrased the whole manuscript to avoid overlap.

2. Funding
In the Funding section, please also describe the role of the funding body in the design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript.

RE: We have added this information in the funding section as follows:

The cost covers fees for bibliographic search and update during the design of the study, consulting fee for statisticians during the process of data collection, analysis, and interpretation, and fees paid for language editing and publication when processing the manuscript.

3. Figure Legend

Please remove the figure legends such as "Figure 1", "Figure 2" etc from your figure files. Figure files should contain only the image, as well as any associated keys/annotations.

RE: We have edited all the figures as required.

4. Additional Files

Thank you for uploading your response to the reviewers comments letter. As this file is no longer required, please can you remove it from your submission.

RE: We have removed it from the submission.

5. Clean Manuscript

Please upload your manuscript as a single, final, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colours. All relevant tables/figures/additional files should also be clean versions. Figures (and additional files) should remain uploaded as separate files. Please also ensure that all figures, tables, and supplementary/additional files are cited in the text.

RE: We have checked all the files to meet your requirements.