Reviewer’s report

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

Version: 1 Date: 30 Aug 2018

Reviewer: Jae Jun Park

Reviewer’s report:

The aim of this study was to analyze the risk factors of proximal extension of ulcerative colitis and long term outcomes. Authors found that only the baseline extent alone was a risk factor for proximal extension and patients with proximal extension more required therapeutic medication. This paper has been conducted on a relatively large number of subjects and is well written and the results are systematically presented as a whole. However, it is a retrospective study, and it is a limitation of the paper that the findings are not novel compared to existing results.

Several comments are as follows:

1. In the analysis in Table 2, reference variable that is the basis of comparison is lacking. Specify which statistical method was used to perform the univariate analysis. Furthermore, there is only one variable in the multivariate analysis item. Was the multivariate analysis performed based on only one variable?

2. In the analysis of Table 3, specify the total number of patients for each group. Also, specify the detailed timing of analysis in this table.

3. Specify which statistical method was used in Figure 3

4. Specify for each analysis group for the first analysis in Figure 4. In Figure 4, specify the timing (from when the analysis was started) of the analysis in each group. Moreover, in statistical analysis section, further specify the statistical calculation method in survival analysis regarding last follow up without event, sensoring methods etc.

5. In general, E3 refers to the extent that is more proximal to the splenic flexure. Authors further classified E3 lesion based on hepatic flexure. Describe further in the discussion section whether this grouping has clinical significance (Consider quoting a recent article from Dig Dis Sci. 2018 Aug 25. doi: 10.1007/s10620-018-5218-x. ).

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

No
Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

No

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:

Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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