Reviewer’s report

Title: Presenting Symptoms in Inflammatory Bowel Disease: Descriptive Analysis of a Community-Based Inception Cohort

Version: 0 Date: 06 Feb 2019

Reviewer: Piotr Eder

Reviewer's report:

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I read with interest paper by Perler et al. The paper describes data on the symptomatic phenotypes of IBD in patients with newly diagnosed disease.

I have some major comments, which should be answered:

1. What were the exact criteria for CD and UC diagnosis? Since the main aim was to define the profile of initial symptoms in IBD, the reader should know, which patient was classified as IBD patient, and in which cases the data for the diagnosis were not sufficient.

2. How were the data collected - retrospectively or prospectively? This was not clearly presented in the methods section. In case of retrospective data collection, the results of the study could be significantly biased.

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.

Unable to assess

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

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