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## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 37884

**Title:** MRI and Crohn's Disease Endoscopic Index of Severity: Correlations and concordance

**Reviewer's code:** 02440884

**Reviewer's country:** Germany

**Science editor:** Ya-Juan Ma

**Date sent for review:** 2018-01-22

**Date reviewed:** 2018-01-22

**Review time:** 8 Hours

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

### COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In the clinical study the diagnostic power of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and endoscopic index of severity (EIS) inpatients with Crohn's disease (CD) was investigated. The authors demonstrate MRI and the MaRIA score as an indicator for CD follow-up and activity assessment, but found discrepancies in the judgement of CD between CDEIS and MRI. Comments 1. The authors stressed that the follow-up of CD is investigated; there is no primary diagnosis. it is of interest to know the MRI performance in therapeutic sequences/ cycles; is there any data? 2. CD activity is evaluated using CRP levels. The proinflammatory cytokines are not used to evaluate and monitor CD activity; please give reasons.



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## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 37884

**Title:** MRI and Crohn's Disease Endoscopic Index of Severity: Correlations and concordance

**Reviewer's code:** 01716595

**Reviewer's country:** United States

**Science editor:** Ya-Juan Ma

**Date sent for review:** 2018-01-22

**Date reviewed:** 2018-01-24

**Review time:** 1 Day

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input type="checkbox"/> No	

### COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In this study by Zhu and colleagues, the authors explore the issue of whether MRI findings track with endoscopic findings with regard to the disease activity in patients with Crohn's disease, both before and after treatment. The study has the limitations of a single-center, retrospective study with a relatively small sample size, as described in the methods which are inherent to its design, but are there a few specific limitations that still should be addressed. The authors do not describe how patients were identified for the study. There is a risk of bias if non-consecutive patients are included, so this information is important. Second, the authors state that all endoscopies were performed within 7 days of MRI. This requires clarification. At our center, for example, patients undergoing both MRI and endoscopic evaluation of CD may have an MRI first, then an endoscopy, or vice versa, and these may occur months apart. Were patients whose exams were



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greater than 7 days apart excluded? Otherwise, how is it that all patients had their exams within this time frame? Next, the use of double balloon endoscopy requires clarification. This is not standard practice for evaluation of Crohn's activity, at least in the United States and Europe. Is this standard in China? If so, why? Otherwise, why were patients having these exams? The fourth paragraph of the methods section ("MR images were independently...") is difficult to understand. The first sentence of the sixth paragraph is also ambiguous - is the ROI the unit of comparison? These should be revised in conjunction with a fluent English writer.



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## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 37884

**Title:** MRI and Crohn's Disease Endoscopic Index of Severity: Correlations and concordance

**Reviewer's code:** 02567669

**Reviewer's country:** Germany

**Science editor:** Ya-Juan Ma

**Date sent for review:** 2018-01-22

**Date reviewed:** 2018-01-29

**Review time:** 7 Days

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
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		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

### COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is an interesting study which deals with the relevance of MRI in diagnosis, severity assessment, and follow-up monitoring of Crohn's disease. The results are sound and following to the authors the methods applied can be a useful adjunct in monitoring patients' therapy. However, for a reader not so familiar with the details of MR diagnostic it seems to be difficult to keep a clear view on the different parameters (MaRIA, trRCE. and so on). Particularly a gastroenterologist would be interested to hear some remarks on the physiological background of the different parameters. E.g. what is aRCE in physiological terms? What does diffusion measuring by MR mean. Partly this is addressed in the manuscript for stenoses and strictures. The authors should check whether every abbreviation is explained at the first mention in the text. How reliable was the endoscopic evaluation? By one endoscopist? Coauthorship of a



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gastroenterologist? Is the MR method able to detect fistulas?