

Supplementary Table 1. Ulcerative Colitis Endoscopic Index of Severity

Descriptor (score most severe lesions)	Likert scale anchor points	Definition
Vascular pattern	Normal (0)	Normal vascular pattern with arborization of capillaries clearly defined or with blurring or patchy loss of capillary margins
	Patchy obliteration (1)	Patchy obliteration of vascular pattern
	Obliterated (2)	Complete obliteration of vascular pattern
Bleeding	None (0)	No visible blood
	Mucosal (1)	Some spots or streaks of coagulated blood on the surface of the mucosa ahead of the scope can be washed away
	Luminal mild (2)	Some free liquid blood in the lumen
	Luminal moderate or severe (3)	Frank blood in the lumen ahead of the endoscope or visible oozing from the mucosa after washing intraluminal blood, or visible oozing from a hemorrhagic mucosa
Erosions and ulcers	None (0)	Normal mucosa, no visible erosions or ulcers
	Erosions (1)	Tiny (5 mm) defects in the mucosa of white or yellow color with a flat edge
	Superficial ulcer (2)	Larger (>5 mm) defects in the mucosa, which are discrete fibrin-covered ulcers when compared with erosions but remain superficial
	Deep ulcer (3)	Deeper excavated defects in the mucosa with a slightly raised edge

Each item was subjected to evaluation, with a total score ranging from 0 to 8 points. A score of 0 points was given in case of endoscopic remission, and the score was reduced by 2 or more points in case of endoscopic improvement.