Supplementary table 1. Numerical endoscopic scoring systems for ulcerative colitis.

Index	Setting	Description of Scale	Extent of Use	Level of Validation
Van Der Heide[1] (1987)	Randomized-controlled, prospective study	Numerical grading system generating a total score (0-16) composed of 8 variable sub-scores: ***a) Colour:*** *(0) Normal, (1) Red, (2) Deeply red* ***b) Vascular pattern:*** *(0) Normal, (1) Partially absent, (2) Absent* ***c) Friability:*** *(0) Normal, (1) Slight, (2) Severe)* ***d) Granularity:*** *(0) Absent, (1) Fine, (2) Coarse* ***e) Rectal valves:*** *(0) Sharp, (1) Swollen, (2) Absent* ***f) Ulcers:*** *(0) Absent, (1) Few, (2) Multiple* ***g) Spontaneous bleeding:*** *(0) Absent, (1) Discrete, (2) Severe* ***h) Mucopurulent exudate:*** *(0) Absent, (1) Little, (2) Much*	Some clinical studies	Not validated
Endoscopic Index (Rachmilewitz index)[2] (1989)	Prospective study	Numerical grading system generating a total score (0-12) composed of 4 variable sub-scores: ***a) Granulation scattering reflected light:*** *(0) No, (2) Yes* ***b) Vascular pattern:*** *(0) Normal, (1) Faded/disturbed,* *(2) Completely absent* ***c) Vulnerability of mucosa:*** *(0) None, (2) Contact bleeding, (4) Spontaneous bleeding* ***d) Mucosal damage (mucus, fibrin, exudate, erosions, ulcer):*** *(0) None, (2) Slight, (4) Pronounced*	Multiple clinical studies and RCT	Not validated
Sigmoidoscopic index (Hanauer)[3] (1989)	Prospective study	Numerical grading system generating a total score (0-16) composed of 5 variable sub-scores, each graded as (0) normal, (1) mild, (2) moderate or (3) severe: *a) Erythema* *b) Friability* *c) Granularity/ulceration* *d) Mucopus* *e) Disappearance of mucosal vascular pattern*	Multiple clinical studies and RCT	Not validated

Beattie score[4] (1996)	Prospective study	Numerical grading system generating a total score (0-15) composed of severity scores (0-3) for each colonic segment (ascending, transverse, descending, sigmoid and rectum): *(0) Quiescent* *(1) Mild* *(2) Moderate* *(3) Severe*	Some clinical studies	Not validated
Endoscopic Clinical Correlation Index (ECCI)[5] (2005)	Prospective study	Numerical grading system generating a total score (0-30) based on two separate severity scores (Presence of active lesions and mucosal fragility) assessed at each colonic segment (rectum, sigmoid, descending, transverse, ascending colon and caecum): ***a) Presence of active lesions:*** *(0) none, (1) hyperaemia & edema,* *(2) erosions, (3) ulcers* ***b) Mucosal friability:*** *(0) normal mucosa, (1) bleeding to instrumental traumatism,* *(2) spontaneous bleeding*	Some clinical trials	Not validated
Endoscopic Activity Index (EAI)[6] (2010)	Prospective study	Numerical grading system generating a total score (0-16) composed of 6 variable sub-scores: ***a) Size of ulcers****:* *(0) None, (1) Erosions/small ulcers,* *(2) Intermediate,* *(3) Wide-ranged mucosal defects* ***b) Depth of ulcers:*** *(0) None, (1) Shallow, (2) Intermediate,* *(3) Deep* ***c) Redness:*** *(0) None, (1) Mild, (2) Marked* ***d) Bleeding:*** *(0) None, (1) Contact bleeding,* *(2) Spontaneous bleeding,* *(3) Massive bleeding* ***e) Mucosal oedema:*** *(0) None, (1) Mild, (2) Moderate, (3) Severe* ***e) Mucous exudate:*** *(0) None, (1) Mild, (2) Marked*	Multiple clinical studies and RCT	Not validated
UCCIS[7, 8] (2012)	Prospective study	Numerical score derived by entering the individual grade of four descriptors into a formula (3.1 x vascular pattern + 3.6 x granularity + 3.5 x ulceration+ 2.5 x bleeding/friability) *Descriptors:* ***a) Vascular pattern***	Some clinical trials	Validated

		(0) Normal, (1) partially visible, (2) complete loss ***b) Granularity*** *(0) Normal, (1) Fine, (2) Course* ***c) Ulceration*** *(0) Normal, (1) Erosions, (2) Shallow, (3) Deep, (4) Diffuse, >30% deep* ***d) Bleeding/friability*** *(0) Normal, (1) Friability, (2) Spontaneous bleeding*		

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