

## Supplementary materials

**Table S1** Summary of safety findings (safety analysis set, N = 112)

	Budesonide n = 56	Mesalazine n = 56
Patients with any adverse event, n (%)	26 (46)	25 (45)
Patients with serious adverse event, n (%)	3 (5)	1 (2)
Patients with adverse event leading to discontinuation, n (%)	4 (7)	4 (7)
Adverse events occurring in ≥5% of patients in any treatment group, n (%)		
Nasopharyngitis	6 (11)	10 (18)
Pharyngitis	0 (0)	3 (5)
Crohn's disease	1 (2)	3 (5)
Vomiting	3 (5)	0 (0)
Headache	3 (5)	0 (0)

**Table S2** Clinical chemistry findings (safety analysis set, N = 112)

Variable	Baseline	Week 2	Week 4	Week 8	Week 10	LOCF
<b>Alanine aminotransferase, U/L</b>						
Budesonide	0.36 (0.30)	0.34 (0.26)	0.31 (0.21)	0.32 (0.22)	0.31 (0.22)	0.32 (0.21)
Mesalazine	0.29 (0.17)	0.31 (0.17)	0.31 (0.16)	0.30 (0.18)	0.29 (0.17)	0.30 (0.19)
<b>Alkaline phosphatase, U/L</b>						
Budesonide	4.39 (1.35)	3.98 (1.07)	3.80 (1.00)	3.63 (1.00)	3.86 (1.23)	3.92 (1.22)
Mesalazine	4.42 (1.53)	4.38 (1.29)	4.42 (1.44)	4.25 (1.12)	4.31 (1.13)	4.45 (1.41)
<b>Aspartate aminotransferase, U/L</b>						
Budesonide	0.35 (0.15)	0.30 (0.13)	0.28 (0.11)	0.30 (0.14)	0.31 (0.12)	0.32 (0.13)
Mesalazine	0.30 (0.12)	0.32 (0.14)	0.32 (0.12)	0.32 (0.15)	0.32 (0.15)	0.32 (0.16)
<b>Bilirubin, µmol/L</b>						
Budesonide	10.19 (6.43)	10.96 (5.63)	11.07 (6.04)	11.48 (5.56)	11.27 (5.26)	11.41 (6.28)
Mesalazine	9.88 (7.69)	9.20 (6.94)	9.37 (6.08)	10.30 (6.20)	10.23 (6.67)	9.45 (6.22)
<b>C-reactive protein, mg/L</b>						

Budesonide	12.32 (16.70)	7.92 (15.16)	7.01 (11.64)	7.03 (10.45)	13.13 (20.99)	17.36 (28.73)
Mesalazine	15.67 (17.41)	14.57 (18.44)	14.07 (16.42)	10.13 (13.20)	10.82 (12.93)	13.55 (15.37)
<b>Cholesterol, mmol/L</b>						
Budesonide	3.98 (0.88)	4.25 (0.95)	4.40 (0.93)	4.52 (1.08)	4.33 (0.92)	4.28 (0.93)
Mesalazine	3.47 (0.83)	3.53 (0.95)	3.55 (0.92)	3.63 (0.98)	3.60 (0.90)	3.54 (0.87)
<b>Creatinine, µmol/L</b>						
Budesonide	64.47 (15.67)	64.72 (14.62)	63.46 (14.36)	63.46 (14.42)	64.59 (14.89)	64.69 (14.25)
Mesalazine	63.85 (13.53)	63.31 (12.50)	63.91 (13.93)	62.12 (14.22)	63.27 (14.18)	63.43 (13.47)
<b>DHEA-S, µmol/L</b>						
Budesonide	3.78 (2.20)	2.63 (2.17)	2.38 (2.12)	2.44 (2.66)	3.10 (2.04)	3.22 (2.33)
Mesalazine	3.24 (2.15)	2.98 (1.98)	3.24 (2.12)	3.21 (2.21)	3.24 (2.18)	3.16 (2.16)
<b>Gamma-glutamyltransferase, U/L</b>						
Budesonide	0.42 (0.25)	0.43 (0.25)	0.40 (0.22)	0.38 (0.21)	0.38 (0.25)	0.42 (0.29)
Mesalazine	0.41 (0.28)	0.42 (0.24)	0.43 (0.27)	0.38 (0.19)	0.42 (0.27)	0.44 (0.29)
<b>Glucose, mmol/L</b>						

Budesonide	5.14 (0.84)	5.36 (1.02)	5.42 (1.05)	5.59 (2.21)	5.63 (1.22)	5.59 (1.18)
Mesalazine	5.40 (0.88)	5.46 (0.80)	5.28 (0.94)	5.67 (1.21)	5.74 (1.03)	5.68 (1.00)
<b>Potassium, mmol/L</b>						
Budesonide	3.99 (0.29)	3.80 (0.37)	3.81 (0.30)	3.86 (0.35)	3.92 (0.33)	3.90 (0.33)
Mesalazine	3.98 (0.37)	3.97 (0.38)	4.07 (0.33)	4.00 (0.39)	3.99 (0.36)	3.99 (0.35)
<b>Protein (g/L)</b>						
Budesonide	71.61 (6.28)	70.95 (6.70)	70.83 (5.80)	70.81 (6.40)	70.64 (5.76)	70.65 (5.86)
Mesalazine	68.89 (7.23)	68.10 (6.48)	68.63 (6.56)	68.81 (7.93)	68.66 (7.17)	69.19 (7.69)
<b>Sodium, mmol/L</b>						
Budesonide	140.7 (1.8)	141.2 (2.1)	141.3 (2.1)	141.0 (2.5)	140.3 (2.0)	140.4 (2.0)
Mesalazine	140.5 (2.1)	140.4 (2.0)	140.4 (2.1)	140.8 (2.2)	140.9 (2.2)	140.6 (2.3)

DHEA = dehydroepiandrosterone sulfate; LOCF = last observation carried forward.

## Figure legend

**Fig. S1.** Patient flow diagram.

