

Endoscopic and Histological Grading in IBD

Geert D'Haens MD, PhD
BELGIUM



ECCO



Inflammatory Bowel Diseases 2008

3rd Congress of ECCO – the European Crohn's and Colitis Organization

In collaboration with GETAID – Groupe
d'Etude Thérapeutique des Affections
Inflammatoires du Tube Digestif



Cité – Centre de Congrès Lyon, France
February 28 – March 1, 2008

ECCO website: www.ecco-ibd.eu

Typical Lesions in Active Crohn's Disease

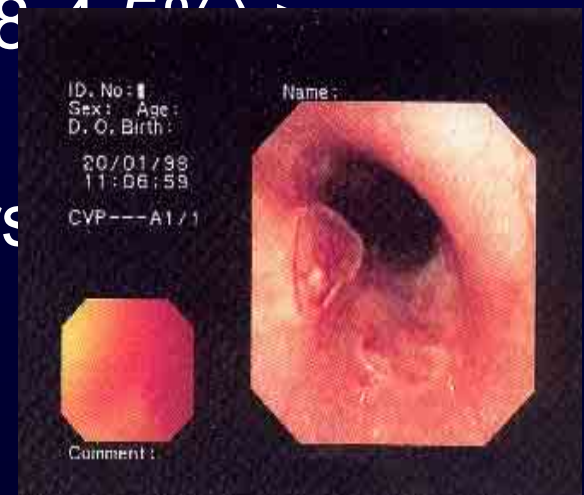


- Aphthous ulcerations
- Deep irregular ulcerations,
- 'punched-out' ulcers
- Longitudinal ulcerations
- Cobblestoning
- Discontinuous involvement (86%)
- Rectal sparing (25%)
- Luminal narrowing
- Fistulas



Typical lesions in Upper GI Crohn's Disease

- Invariably accompanied by small bowel / colonic disease
- Prospective studies: 17 – 75 % (sympt and asympt)
- Retrospective studies: 0.5 – 13 %
- Oral (6-9%) > gastroduodenal (1.8 – 4.5%) > oesophageal (1.8%)
- Oesophageal CD: aphthous ulcers, ulcers, erosions, strictures

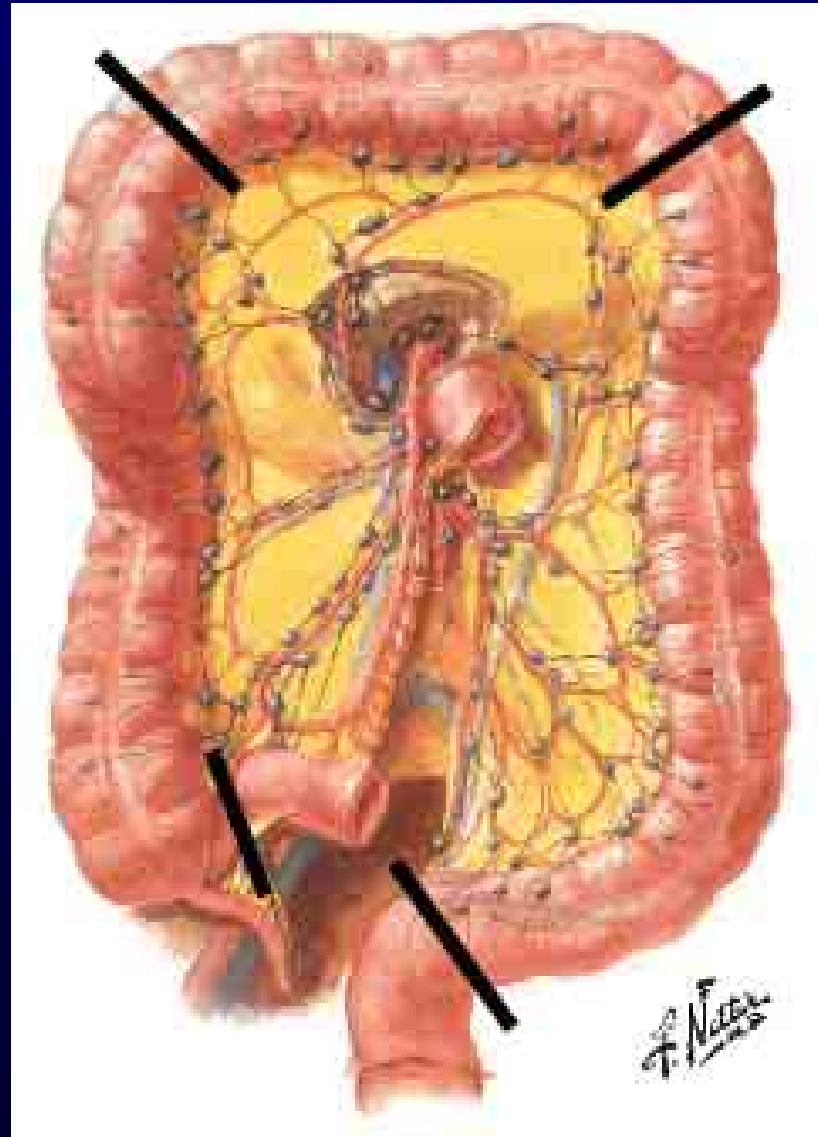


Measurement of Endoscopic Disease Activity in Crohn's Disease

- The Crohn's Disease Endoscopic Index of Severity (CDEIS)
- The Simple Endoscopic Index for Crohn's Disease (SES-CD)
- The Rutgeerts' score for postoperative recurrence

*Endoscopic
endpoints*

Ileocolonic segments



CDEIS

	Rectum	Sigmoid and left colon	Transverse colon	Right colon	Ileum	Total
Deep ulcerations (12 if present, 0 if absent in the segment)	_____+	_____+	_____+	_____+	_____+	Total 1+
Superficial ulcerations (6 if present, 0 if absent in the segment)	_____+	_____+	_____+	_____+	_____+	Total 2+
Surface involved by disease (cm)	_____+	_____+	_____+	_____+	_____+	Total 3+
Surface involved by ulcerations (cm)	_____+	_____+	_____+	_____+	_____+	Total 4=
						Total A
	Number of segments totally or partially explored (1-5)					n
	Total A/n =					Total B
	If ulcerated stenosis is present anywhere add 3=					C
	If non-ulcerated stenosis is present anywhere add 3=					D
TOTAL B + C + D = CDEIS						

CDEIS

Scores range from 0-44 (higher=more severe)

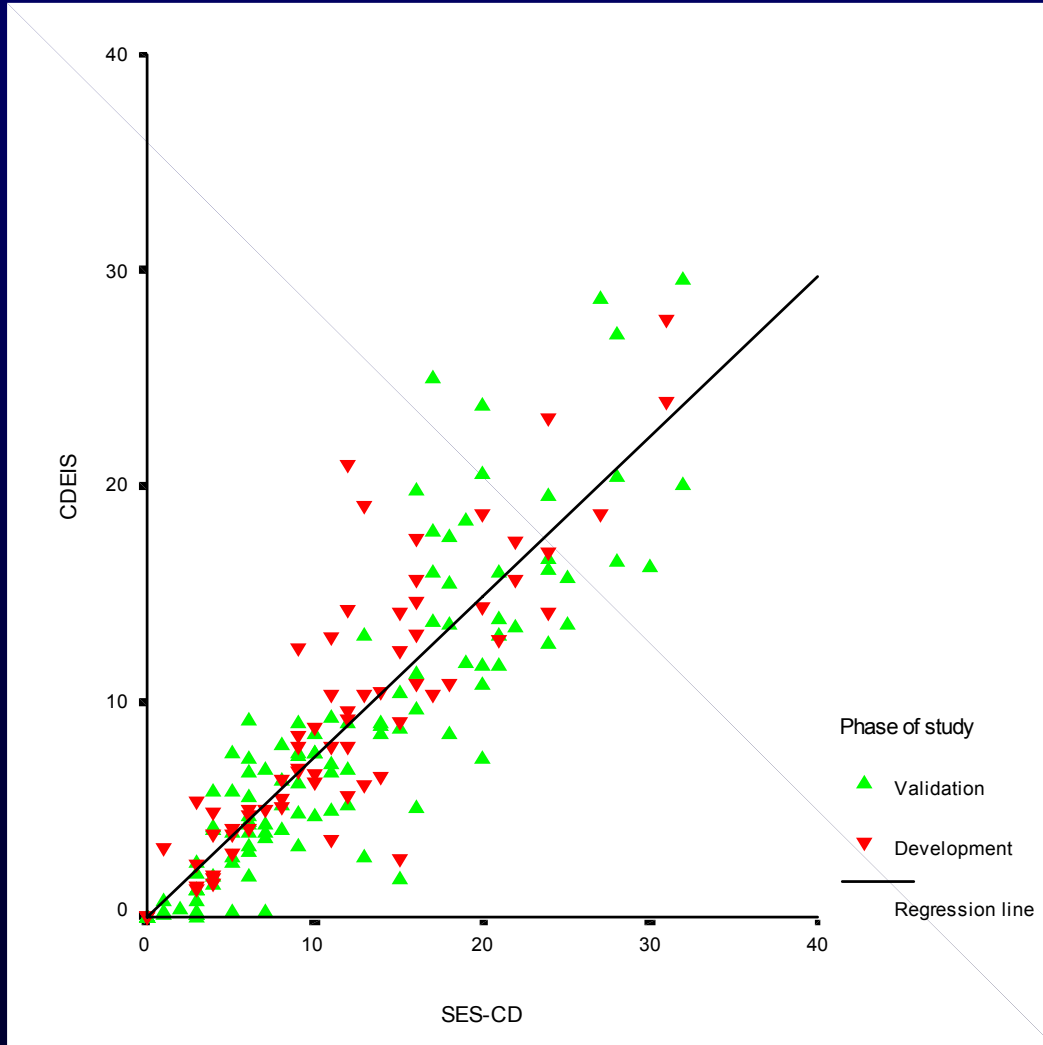
Simple endoscopy index : SES-CD

SEVERITY	0	1	2	3
Presence and size of ulcers	None	Aphthous <0.5 cm	Large, 0.5÷2 cm	>2 cm
Extent of ulcerated surface	0%	<10%	10-30%	>30%
Extent of affected surface	0%	<50%	50-75%	>75%
Presence and type of narrowings	None	Single, can be passed	Multiple, can be passed	Cannot be passed

SES-CD

	Ileum	Right colon	Transverse colon	Left colon	Rectum	Total
Presence and size of ulcers (0-3)	___+	___+	___+	___+	___+	+
Extent of ulcerated surface (0-3)	___+	___+	___+	___+	___+	+
Extent of affected surface (0-3)	___+	___+	___+	___+	___+	+
Presence and type of narrowings (0-3)	___+	___+	___+	___+	___+	=
RAW SUM OF VARIABLES						Total
Number of affected segments						n
Total - 1.4 x n =						SES-CD

Correlation between SES-CD and CDEIS (191 examinations)



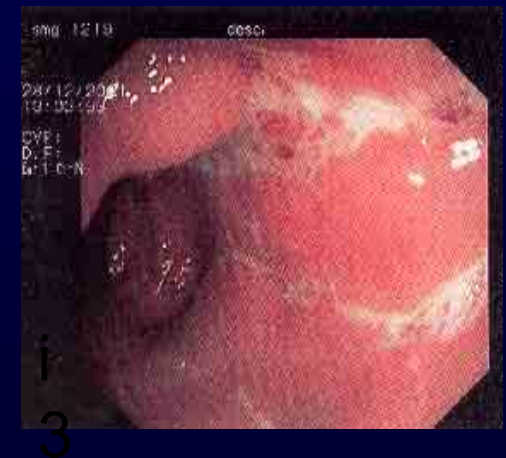
Clinical-endoscopic Correlations

	SES-CD	CDEIS	GELS
CDAI	0.371 (p<0.0001)	0.321 (p=0.0003)	0.250 (p=0.005)
IBDQ	-0.231 (p=0.019)	-0.240 (p=0.015)	-0.203 (p=0.039)
CRP	0.453 (p<0.0001)	0.422 (p<0.0001)	0.400 (p<0.0001)

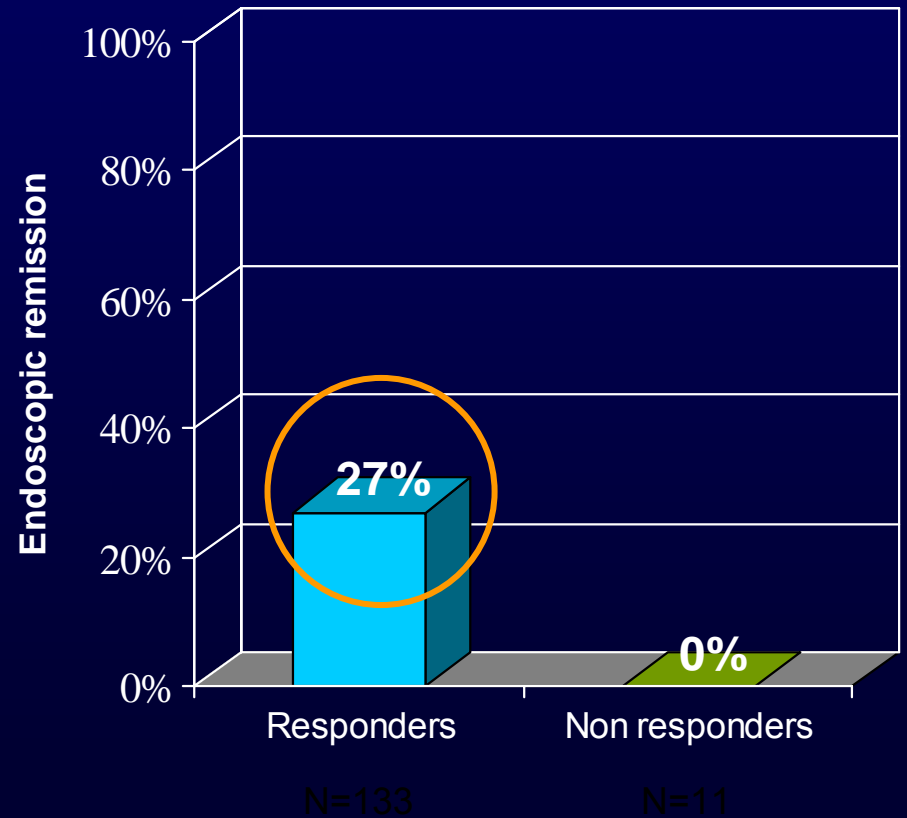
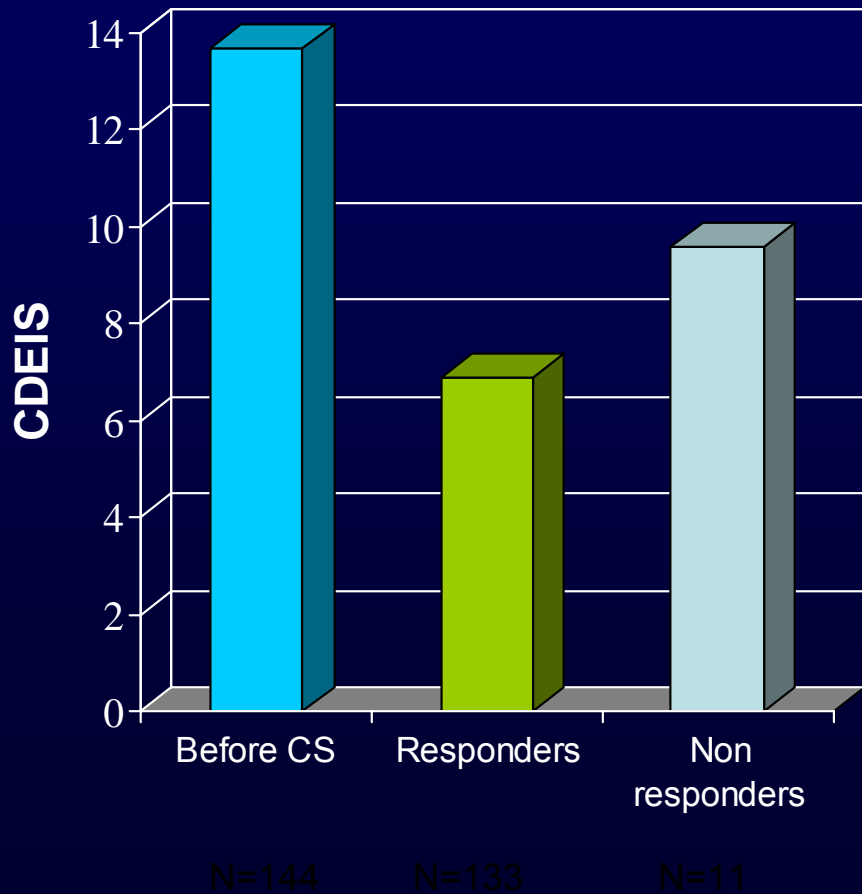
- Correlations to clinical variables were significant

Endoscopic Assessment following surgery : Rutgeerts' score

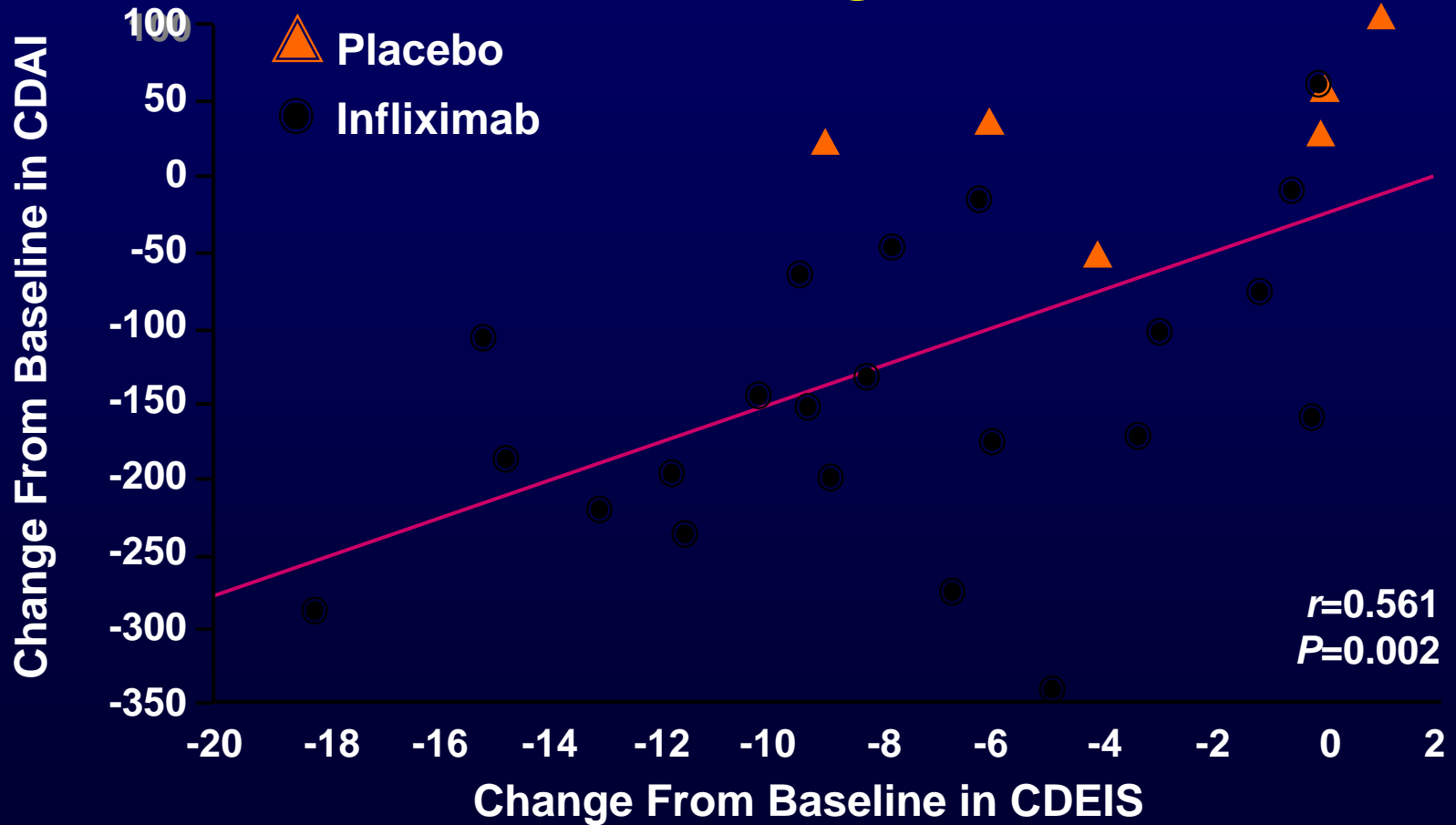
- Developed for lesions in the neoterminal ileum and at the ileocolonic anastomosis
- i0 – i4
- Correlates with clinical behavior in the future



Effect of steroids (1 mg/kg/d) on endoscopic lesions in CD after 3-7 weeks



Symptom Improvement with Mucosal Healing



Treatment of CD: Mucosal Healing

*No or only
Limited Healing*

Aminosalicylates

Steroids

Antibiotics

*Important but
Slow Healing*

Azathioprine

6-MP

Natalizumab ?

Methotrexate (?)

*Important and
Rapid Healing*

Infliximab

Adalimumab?

Certolizumab?

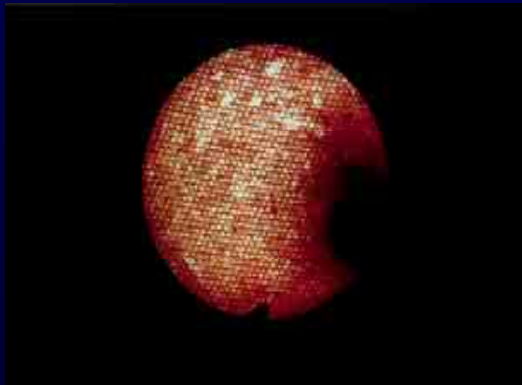
IOIBD CONSENSUS

- CDEIS to be used a secondary endpoint in studies looking at inflammatory activity
- Rutgeerts' score to be used in studies for postoperative recurrence
- Significant recurrence = i3 or i4

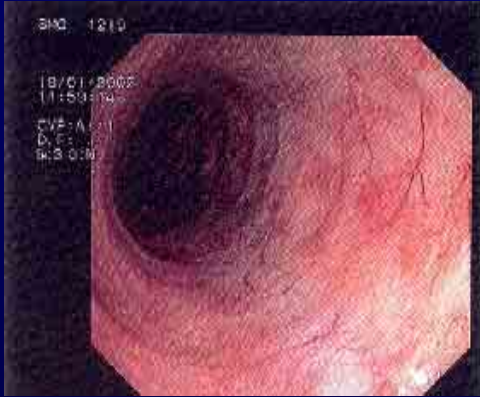
Sandborn et al.: A REVIEW OF ACTIVITY INDICES AND EFFICACY ENDPOINTS FOR CLINICAL TRIALS OF MEDICAL THERAPY IN ADULTS WITH CROHN'S DISEASE. Gastroenterology, 2002

Typical lesions in Active Ulcerative Colitis

- Continuous involvement (caution: treatment effects)
- Erythema
- Friability
- Granularity
- Micro-ulcerations
- Shallow ulcerations
- Cecal patch

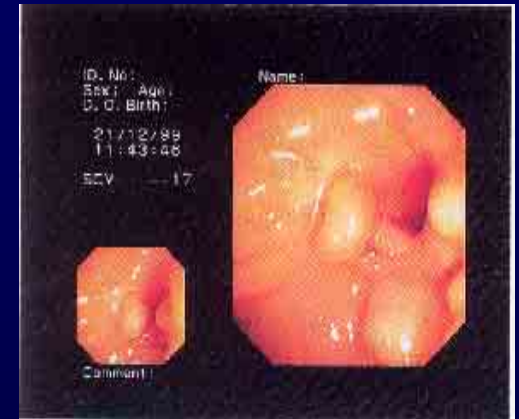


Typical lesions in Quiescent Colitis

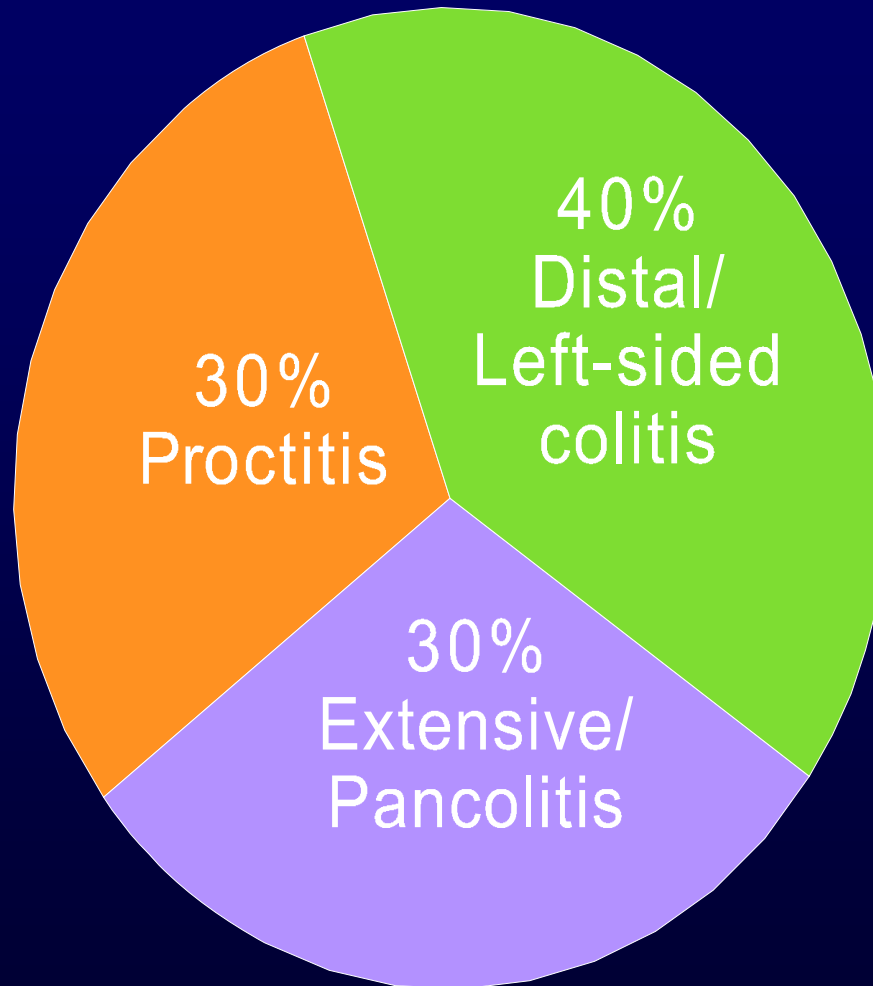


- Attenuated vascular pattern/ loss of vascular pattern
- Mucosal bridging
- Pseudopolyps
- Stricture formation: pylorus, ileocecal valve, rectosigmoid junction

(CD >> UC)

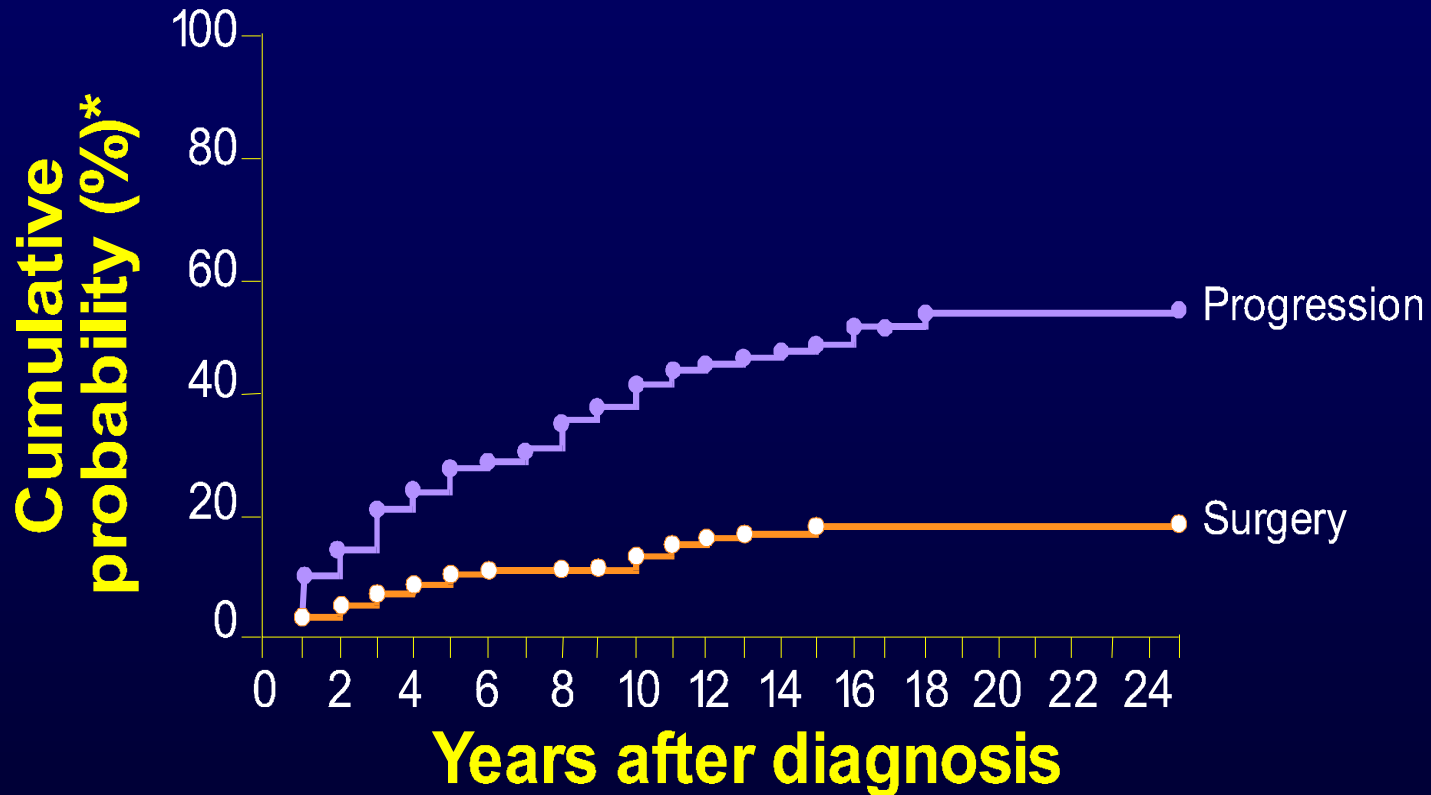


UC: Location and Extent



Percentages based on extent of disease at diagnosis.

Natural Course of UC: Proctosigmoiditis



*Based on a multivariate analysis

Reprinted with permission from Langholz E et al.
Scand J Gastroenterol. 1996;31:260-266.

Endoscopic changes in UC

Normal mucosa



Edema (obscuring normal vessels)



Erythema (capillary dilatation)



Granularity and friability



Pinpoint ulceration



Larger ulcers

?

distorted vasc pattern
pseudopolyps

mucopus

Endoscopy in Active Ulcerative Colitis

- Full ileocolonoscopy recommended at diagnosis
- Flexible sigmoidoscopy sufficient for F/U
- No bowel prep needed in pts with active symptoms
- Continuous involvement (caution: treatment effects)
- Caution in fulminant colitis !
- Deep ulcers in spite of therapy : poor prognostic sign
- Biopsies to be taken in relapse ! (CMV, C Diff, ...)

Endoscopic scores for UC

- Useful since endoscopic improvement lags behind symptom improvement and endoscopic healing is an endpoint that is aimed at
- Problematic 'inter-observer variability'
- Problem of definitions: friability ? granularity ? Ulcers ?

Baron Endoscopic score for UC: 'Activity variables'

- 0= Normal: mat mucosa, ramifying vascular pattern clearly visible throughout, no bleeding spontaneous or to light touch
- 1= Abnormal but not hemorrhagic (between 0-2)
- 2= moderately hemorrhagic: bleeding to light touch but no spontaneous bleeding
- 3= severely hemorrhagic= spontaneous bleeding
- *Problem: no description of 'ulcers'*

Endoscopic score for UC: Baron

- Interobserver variation highest for 'graded' variables (eg 'redness')
- Score developed in mild/moderate cases (no ulcers !)
- Best agreement: friability (bleeding to light touch) spontaneous bleeding
- Lowest agreement: granularity

Endoscopic Indices for UC

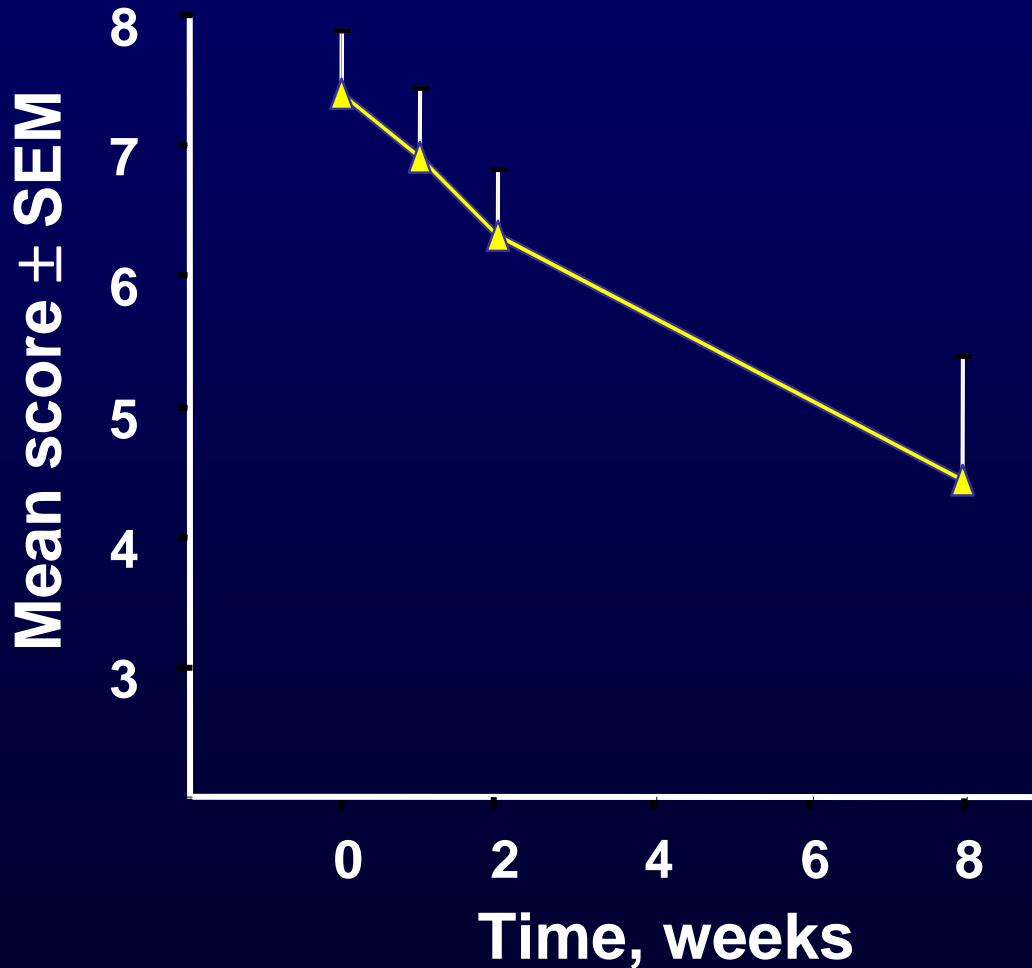
Powell-Tuck 0: no bleeding 1: bleeding on light touch 2: spontaneous bleeding

Sutherland 0: normal - 1: mild friability - 2: moderate friability 3: exsudation

Schroeder 0: normal - 1: disturbed vessels - 2: loss of vasc pattern 3: ulcers

Daclizumab in UC: Pilot Study

Endoscopy Scores



Endoscopic score

Granularity

Vascular pattern

Vulnerability

Mucosal damage

min 0, max 12

Daclizumab in UC: Pilot Study Results

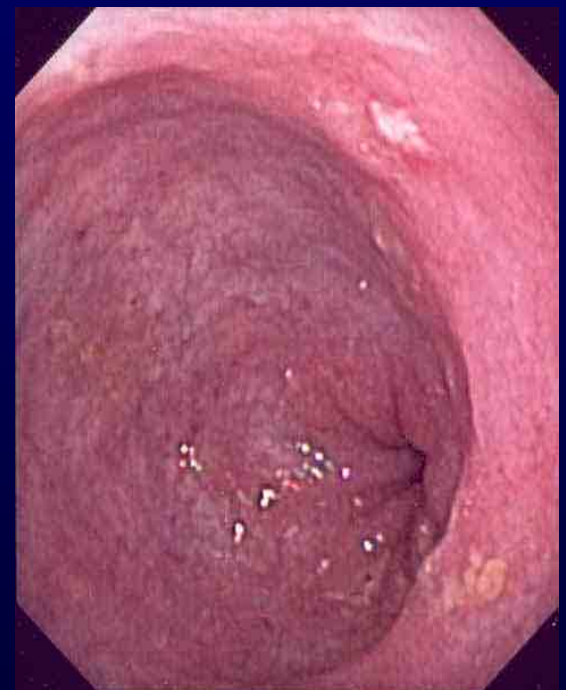
Mucosal Improvement After Treatment With Daclizumab



Week 0



Week 1



Week 8

Healing in UC: points to consider

- Active UC is associated with a higher likelihood of dysplasia/cancer
- Endoscopy correlates well with histology and 'histological healing' predicts longer 'time to relapse' (Riley et al.)
- In ACT, if healing at w8 (score 0): 4 x higher likelihood of clinical remission at w 30 (43.8 % vs 9.5 %)

Differential diagnosis CD/UC

CROHN'S

UC

- Discontinuous involvement
 - Cobblestoning
 - Aphthous ulcers
 - Deep serpiginous ulcers
 - Rectal sparing
 - Anal lesions
 - Ileocecal valve stenotic/ulcerated
- Continuous involvement
 - Erosions/microulcerations
 - Loss of vascular pattern
 - Rectal involvement
 - Ileocecal valve patulous and free of ulceration
- Indeterminate: 10%

Crohn's disease histology: general features

- **CD can affect the entire GI tract**
- **CD is a segmental disease**
- **CD is a transmural disease**
 - **Mucosal lesions > endoscopic samples**
 - **Deeply situated lesions > surgical samples**

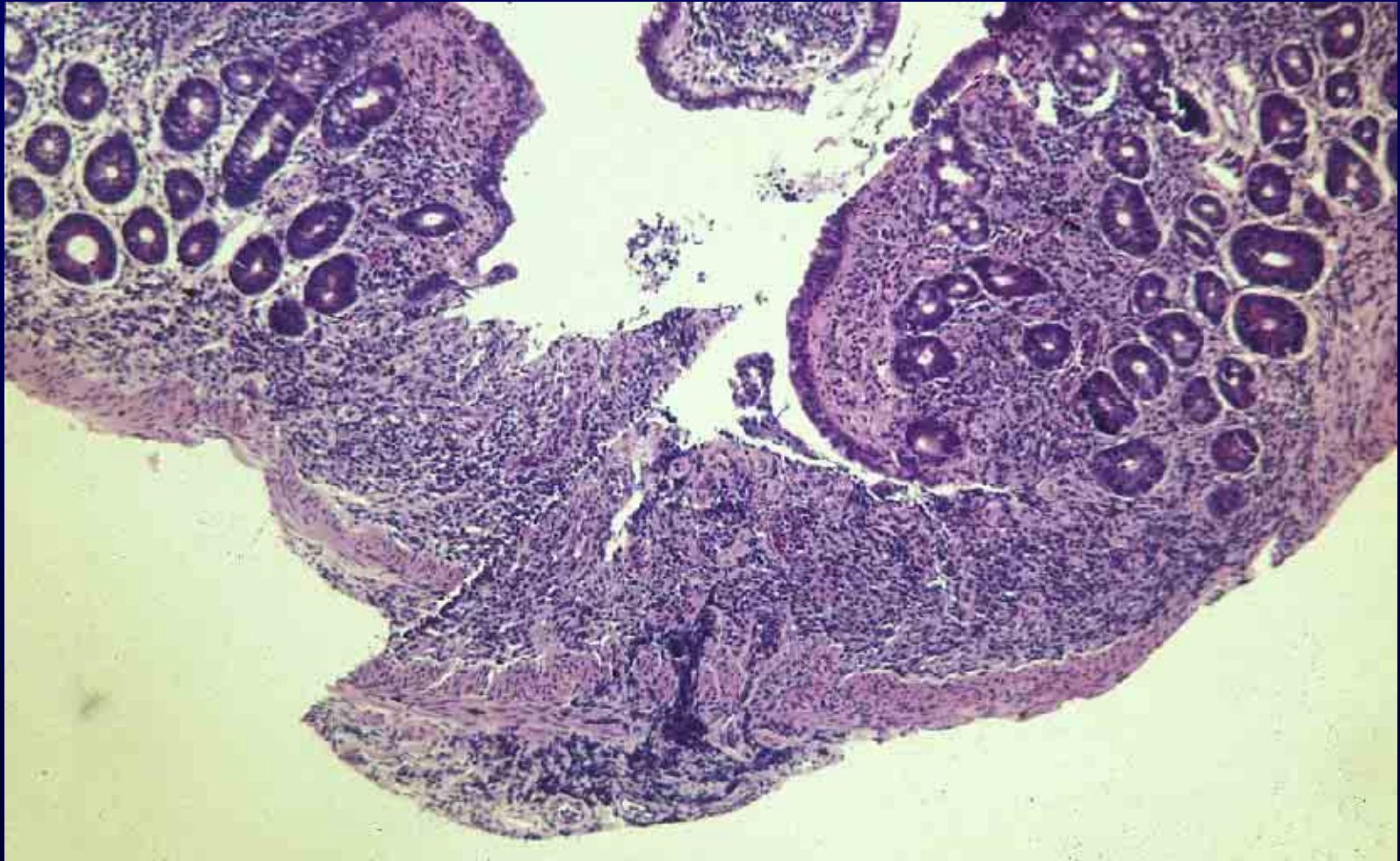
Crohn's disease microscopic features : early lesions

- **Early lesions occur in a background of normal mucosa (focal lesions)**
- **Types**
 - **Summit lesions : damage of small capillaries and loss of epithelial cells**
 - **Epithelial patchy necrosis**
 - **Mucosal microulcerations (loss of up to 6 cells)**
 - **Aphthoid ulcer**
 - **Mountain peak ulcer : ulcers at the base of crypts**

Crohn's disease : Aphthoid ulcer



Crohn's disease : Mountain peak ulcer



Crohn's disease microscopic features & diagnosis

- **Epithelial alterations**
 - Cytological changes > damage & repair
 - Architectural changes
 - Metaplastic changes
- **Inflammatory response**
 - Intensity
 - Composition
 - Distribution

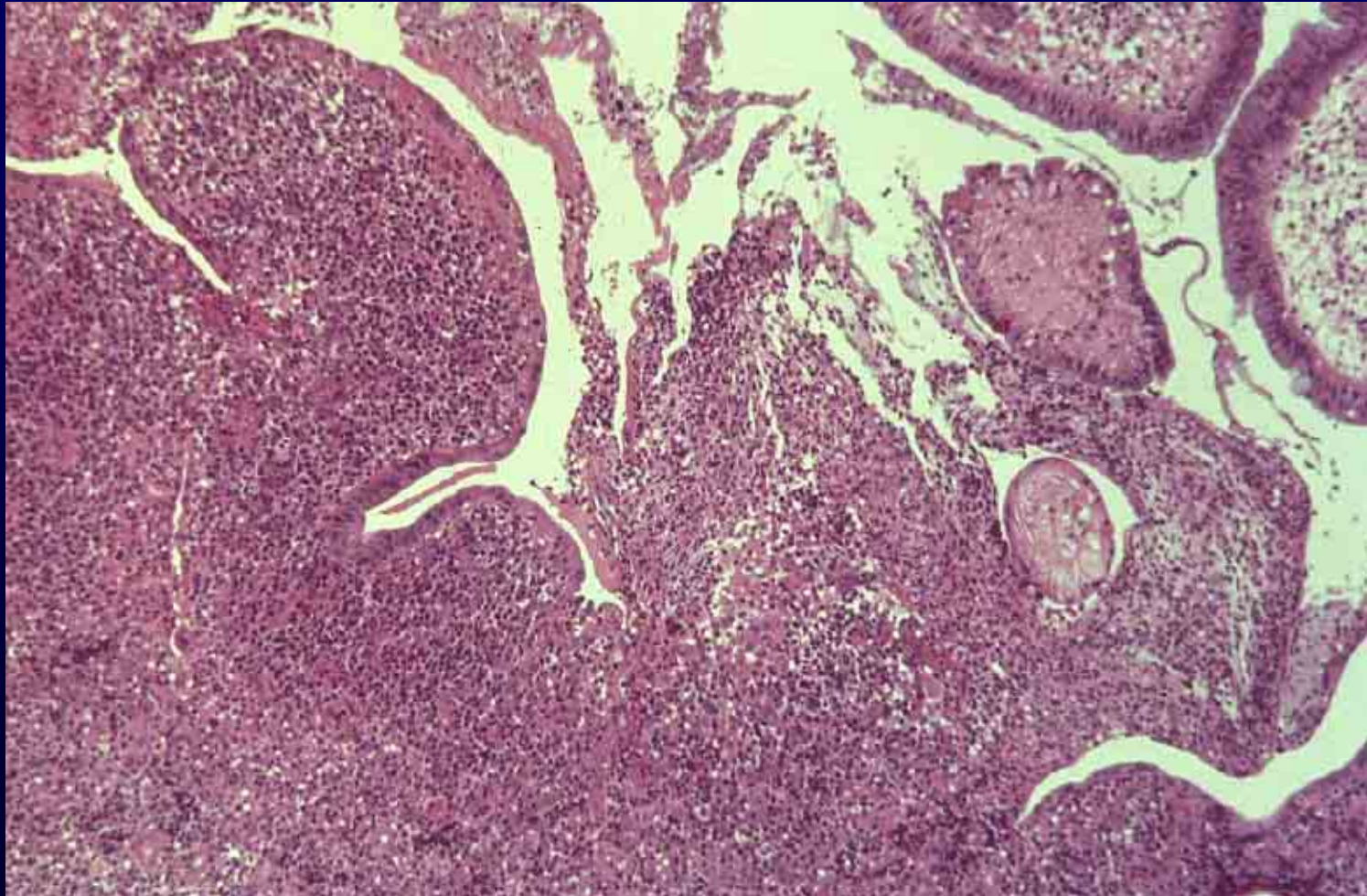
Histologic Disease Activity in CD

- Epithelial damage 0-2
- Architectural changes 0-2
- Mononuclear infiltrate in LP 0-2
- PMN infiltrate in LP 0-2
- PMN infiltrate in epithelium 1-3
- Erosion/ulcers 0-1
- Granulomas 0-1
- Proportion of biopsies affected 0-3

Histologic Disease Activity in CD

- Correlation between histological changes and clinical improvement is poor
- Score not validated prospectively
- Histology recommended for exploratory studies

Crohn's disease : Before IFX



Crohn's disease : 4w after IFX



Geboes Index: different grades used for evaluation of histologic disease severity in UC

Geboes Index:

Grade 0: Structural (architectural) changes

0= No abnormality, 1= Mild abnormality, 2= Mild or moderate diffuse or multifocal abnormalities, 3= Severe diffuse or multifocal abnormalities

Grade 1: Chronic inflammatory infiltrate

0= No increase, 1= Mild but unequivocal increase, 2= Moderate increase, 3= Marked increase

Grade 2: Lamina propria neutrophils and eosinophils

2A Eosinophils

0= No increase, 1= Mild but unequivocal increase, 2= Moderate increase, 3= Marked increase

2B Neutrophils

0= No increase, 1= Mild but unequivocal increase, 2= Moderate increase, 3= Marked increase

Grade 3: Neutrophils in epithelium

0= None, 1= < 5% crypts involved, 2=< 50% crypts involved, 3=> 50% crypts involved

Grade 4: Crypt destruction

0=None, 1=Probable – local excess of neutrophils in part of crypt, 2=Probable – marked attenuation, 3=Unequivocal crypt destruction

Grade 5:Erosion or ulceration

0=No erosion, ulceration, or granulation tissue, 1= Recovering epithelium + adjacent inflammation, 2= Probable erosion – focally stripped, 3= Unequivocal erosion, 4= Ulcer or granulation tissue

Conclusions

- In UC endoscopic (and histological) scores are absolutely recommended in the assessment of disease activity and effects of drug therapy
- In Crohn's disease endoscopic endpoints are gradually entering routine clinical practice and should be part of the evaluation of drug effects
- More research is needed to ascertain if 'healing of the mucosa' should be the ultimate goal of treatment in CD



ECCO



Inflammatory Bowel Diseases 2008

3rd Congress of ECCO – the European Crohn's and Colitis Organization

In collaboration with GETAID – Groupe
d'Etude Thérapeutique des Affections
Inflammatoires du Tube Digestif



Cité – Centre de Congrès Lyon, France
February 28 – March 1, 2008

ECCO website: www.ecco-ibd.eu