



Frequent occurrence of perianal disease and granuloma formation in patients with Crohn's disease and concomitant orofacial granulomatosis 5 years after diagnosis

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Aim

The aim of this project was to study retrospectively a cohort of patients with Crohn's disease in conjunction with orofacial granulomatosis (CD-OFG), to evaluate whether this entity exhibits distinct phenotypic features persisting in the years following the initial CD diagnosis.

Method

This is a retrospective longitudinal study covering the first 5 years post CD diagnosis. Clinical data including perianal disease, presence of intestinal granulomas, and pharmacological and surgical treatments were compared between the two diagnostic groups.

Study group CD-OFG

- 25 patients
- Median age 12 years
- Male to female ratio 4:1

Reference group CD-Ref

- 50 patients (with Crohn's disease only)
- Age-matched
- Sex-matched

Importance

The clinical implications of our results are that patients with CD-OFG should be carefully monitored regarding development of perianal disease, and a rapid step-up treatment strategy may be necessary. A close collaboration with oral medicine practitioners, to ensure that the sometimes subtle lesions of OFG are not overlooked.