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Summary

GREY MATTER VOLUME CORRELATES OF EXTRAINTESTINAL SYMPTOMS IN ACTIVE AND QUIESCENT CROHN'S DISEASE

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MRI study of 53 Crohn's disease patients found reduced grey matter volume in multiple brain regions compared to healthy controls, with fatigue symptoms negatively correlated with grey matter in specific areas but no correlation with depression or anxiety symptoms.

KEY POINTS

- Crohn's disease patients showed significantly reduced grey matter volume in the right cuneus, lingual and fusiform gyrus, left precentral gyrus, and cerebellum compared to healthy controls (all $p<0.0001$).
- Patients had significantly higher fatigue (25 vs 8.5), depression (4 vs 1.9), and anxiety (5.5 vs 3.4) scores than healthy controls (all $p<0.005$).
- Fatigue symptoms were negatively correlated with grey matter volume in the left precentral cortex ($\rho=0.32$), right fusiform gyrus ($\rho=0.41$), and right lingual gyrus ($\rho=0.34$).
- Depressive symptoms were associated with faecal calprotectin levels ($\rho=0.37$, $p<0.05$), but no correlations were found between grey matter volume and depression or anxiety symptoms.
- The study included 53 Crohn's disease patients (30 active, 23 quiescent) and 37 healthy controls who underwent 3T MRI and completed validated symptom questionnaires.

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