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Summary

MODULATION OF EOSINOPHIL-RELATED BIOMARKERS BY PROTON PUMP INHIBITORS IN EOSINOPHILIC ESOPHAGITIS

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Mass cytometry identified distinct blood eosinophil phenotypes in eosinophilic esophagitis that changed with proton pump inhibitor treatment, with FOXP3-expressing regulatory eosinophils expanding in responders but not in nonresponders.

KEY POINTS

- In 17 adults with eosinophilic esophagitis treated with omeprazole 20 mg twice daily for 12 weeks, 12 patients (71%) achieved histologic response with eosinophils per high-power field decreasing from mean 45 to 2.
- Mass cytometry identified 10 distinct eosinophil clusters, with galectin-10–positive and CD16-positive clusters decreasing significantly following treatment.
- FOXP3-expressing eosinophil populations expanded after treatment in responders but not in the 5 nonresponders, suggesting a regulatory eosinophil phenotype associated with treatment response.
- Clinical improvements included Watson Dysphagia Scale scores decreasing from mean 18 to 14, Eosinophilic Esophagitis Activity Index scores from 45 to 31, and EREFS scores from 3.0 to 1.9.
- Blood-based eosinophil phenotyping shows promise as a noninvasive indicator of treatment response in eosinophilic esophagitis.

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