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Summary

THE CAUDOVIRALES CLASS OF VIRUSES IS ASSOCIATED WITH DENDRITIC CELL IMPAIRMENT IN CD PATIENTS

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The Autographiviridae viral family is highly abundant in Crohn's disease colon and specifically affects dendritic cells, endothelial cells, fibroblasts, and epithelial cells, with dendritic cells showing downregulated immune response transcripts.

KEY POINTS

- Autographiviridae, a family within Caudovirales, was found to be highly abundant in the CD colon compared with healthy controls, confirming prior findings of viral expansion in CD pathogenesis
- Among CD cell populations, only dendritic cells, fibroblasts, and epithelial cells showed impaired biological response to viral insults compared with healthy controls, suggesting cell-specific viral impact
- CD dendritic cells and endothelial cells retained higher abundance of Autographiviridae family compared with healthy cells, and CD dendritic cells displayed downregulation of transcripts key for dendritic cell-directed immune response
- The authors propose these findings may lead to discovery of viruses directly involved in CD pathogenesis that could represent targets for novel therapeutic strategies
- This research will interest IBD researchers and clinicians focused on viral contributions to inflammatory bowel disease pathogenesis and potential therapeutic targets

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