

IMMUNOREACT 19: IN RECTAL CANCER PATIENTS, PREVIOUS APPENDECTOMY IS ASSOCIATED TO AN ALTERED ANTIGEN PRESENTATION IN THE NORMAL MUCOSA

Melania Scarpa

UEG Week Berlin 2025

Poster

Colorectal

October 6, 2025

Prior appendectomy is associated with distinct immune microenvironment changes in rectal carcinoma tissue and adjacent normal mucosa, including altered expression of HLA-ABC, CTLA4, and CD86.

KEY POINTS

- In a cohort of 163 rectal cancer patients (41 with prior appendectomy), normal mucosa from appendectomy patients showed higher epithelial HLA-abc expression ($p=0.04$) and higher CTLA4 expression on CD3+ T cells ($p=0.03$) compared to appendectomy-naive patients.
- Within rectal cancer tissue, patients with prior appendectomy had higher CD86 expression on epithelial cancer cells ($p=0.03$).
- In therapy-naive patients, prior appendectomy was associated with higher CD4+ T helper activation (CD25 expression, $p=0.04$), with trends toward higher epithelial HLA-abc ($p=0.06$) and T cell CTLA-4 ($p=0.08$).
- In patients who received neoadjuvant therapy, prior appendectomy was associated with lower PD-L1 levels on leukocyte surfaces ($p=0.039$).
- The authors interpret these findings as supporting the hypothesis that appendectomy may alter epithelial-intraepithelial T cell interactions in rectal cancer microenvironments.

VIEW THIS CONTENT ON GUTFLIX

<https://gutflix.eu/search/d/8b02b2f6-a815-11f0-88d3-0242ac140006>



AI-generated summary

This summary was generated by an AI large language model based on the content transcript. It is for informational purposes only and should not be considered a substitute for clinical judgment. Always rely on your professional expertise and the full clinical context when making clinical decisions.