

THE VALUE OF QUANTIFERON IN THE DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS OF CROHN'S DISEASE AND INTESTINAL TUBERCULOSIS

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A 15-year retrospective study evaluated quantiferon and ASCA testing to differentiate intestinal tuberculosis from Crohn's disease in 242 patients with ileocecal disease.

KEY POINTS

- Quantiferon was positive in 64.5% of intestinal tuberculosis patients versus 35.4% of Crohn's disease patients.
- When ASCA was positive and quantiferon negative, the combination showed 80% sensitivity and 98% specificity for diagnosing Crohn's disease.
- The study included 189 Crohn's disease patients and 53 intestinal tuberculosis patients, all with ileocolitis and chronic transit disorders, who underwent endoscopy, entero-CT, and phthisiological evaluation.
- The authors conclude that quantiferon combined with ASCA can help refine the differential diagnosis between these two clinically similar conditions.

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