

REAL-WORLD EFFECTIVENESS AND SAFETY OF COMBINATION BIOLOGICS AND SMALL MOLECULE THERAPY IN INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE – A MULTICENTRE STUDY

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Poster

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A real-world retrospective study of 61 patients with refractory IBD treated with dual biologic therapy across two Irish centres found 52% clinical response at 12 weeks and 66% clinical remission at 1 year, with adverse events in 16% of cases and no malignancies reported.

KEY POINTS

- 61 patients with refractory IBD (64% Crohn's disease, all with prior anti-TNF exposure) received dual biologic combinations including vedolizumab-ustekinumab, vedolizumab with other agents, or ustekinumab with other agents, with median follow-up of 10 months.
- Clinical response within 12 weeks occurred in 52% overall, and among 24 patients completing 1-year follow-up, 66% achieved clinical remission; at 2 years (n=11) remission was 36% and at 3 years (n=6) clinical and endoscopic remission was 33%.
- Adverse events occurred in 10 patients (16%), including 7 hospitalisations for disease worsening or complications and non-serious infections; no malignancies were reported during follow-up.
- 26% of patients discontinued combination therapy, with 11 switching to alternative combinations, 5 de-escalating to monotherapy, and 2 undergoing surgery; 4 patients total required surgery during follow-up.
- This study may be relevant to clinicians managing refractory IBD patients with limited therapeutic options who are considering dual biologic strategies.

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