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Summary

# OUTCOMES OF STEM CELL THERAPY FOR ANO-PERINEAL CROHN'S DISEASE : A PROSPECTIVE STUDY

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**A prospective observational study of 23 Crohn's disease patients with perianal fistulas treated with autologous hematopoietic stem cell injections reported 52 percent complete fistula closure at 48 weeks.**

KEY POINTS

- Hematopoietic stem cells were extracted from each patient's bone marrow and injected at a dose of 3x10^6 cells, with half delivered to the internal fistula entrance and half to the external opening
- 36 percent of patients achieved complete closure of all external fistula openings by 12 weeks, increasing to 52 percent by 48 weeks
- Among patients with more than two external openings, the majority showed considerable improvement with at least one opening closed
- One patient developed an anal abscess requiring drainage during follow-up; all other patients remained abscess-free and luminal disease activity remained low
- This material would be relevant to gastroenterologists and colorectal surgeons managing perianal fistulizing Crohn's disease

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