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Summary

GLOBAL, REGIONAL, NATIONAL BURDEN OF INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE FROM 1990-2021: AN ANALYSIS FOR THE GLOBAL BURDEN OF DISEASE 2021

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Global IBD prevalence reached 3.84 million cases in 2021, with low-income regions experiencing much larger increases in incidence and prevalence than high-income countries between 1990 and 2021.

KEY POINTS

- In 2021, an estimated 3.84 million people (95% UI 3.29 to 4.43) were living with IBD globally, comprising 1.43 million with Crohn's disease and 2.41 million with ulcerative colitis.
- Global all-age IBD incidence increased from 3.7 per 100,000 in 1990 to 4.8 per 100,000 in 2021, with prevalence reaching 48.6 per 100,000 in 2021.
- High-income regions showed modest increases with IBD incidence rising 23.2 percent and prevalence rising 25.5 percent between 1990 and 2021, with overlapping uncertainty intervals suggesting relative stability.
- Southeast Asia, East Asia, and Oceania experienced a 118.3 percent increase in IBD incidence and more than doubled prevalence rates over the same period.
- Population growth drove IBD case increases in low-income countries such as sub-Saharan Africa, while population aging was the dominant factor in high-income countries, particularly in Europe.

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