

HUMORAL RESPONSE TO SARS-COV-2 VACCINATION AMONG PATIENTS WITH INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE RECEIVING IMMUNOSUPPRESSIVE MEDICATIONS

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A prospective study of 46 IBD patients and 92 healthy controls found that immunosuppressants and immunobiologics did not impair overall humoral response to COVID-19 vaccination, though vaccine type, age, and prior infection influenced antibody titers.

KEY POINTS

- IBD patients achieved comparable antibody titers to healthy controls one month after two vaccine doses (8038.4 vs 7697.5 AU/ml, $p=0.731$), with both groups showing significant increases from baseline ($p<0.001$).
- Within the IBD group, Pfizer vaccination, younger age, and previous COVID-19 infection were associated with significantly higher antibody titers ($p<0.005$, $p<0.005$, and $p<0.012$, respectively).
- Type of IBD medication, disease characteristics (Crohn's vs ulcerative colitis, location, extension, behavior, activity), and demographic factors (sex, race, smoking) did not significantly affect vaccine response.
- This study is relevant for gastroenterologists managing IBD patients on immunosuppressive therapy who are considering COVID-19 vaccination strategies.

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