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Summary

THE IMPORTANCE OF ANTITNF LEVELS DURING THE INDUCTION IN PERIANAL CROHN´S DISEASE

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A retrospective cohort study of 65 perianal Crohn's disease patients found no statistically significant association between anti-TNF serum levels at induction and clinical or radiological response at weeks 24 or 52, though authors noted a trend toward higher levels in responders.

KEY POINTS

- Among 65 patients with perianal Crohn's disease treated with infliximab or adalimumab, anti-TNF serum levels at weeks 2 and 6 showed no statistically significant relationship with clinical response at week 52 (all p-values >0.3).
- For radiological response at week 52, infliximab levels at week 6 were numerically higher in responders (23.7 µg/mL) versus non-responders (15.9 µg/mL), but the difference was not statistically significant (p=0.27).
- 89.9% of patients who responded at week 52 had already responded at week 24, indicating early response at week 24 was associated with long-term response.
- The study population was 81.5% complex fistulas, 93.8% had prior thiopurine exposure, and 35.4% had prior biologic therapy.
- Authors concluded the study shows a trend toward higher anti-TNF levels being associated with better response rates, though acknowledge the limited sample size.

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