

EVIDENCE OF IMMUNE ACTIVATION IN THE DUODENUM WITH A T-HELPER 2 RESPONSE IN GASTROESOPHAGEAL REFLUX DISEASE: IS A SUBSET WITH GERD A DUODENAL DISEASE?

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Poster

Oesophagus

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A retrospective case-control study found a significantly increased duodenal Th-2 immune signal in GERD patients with positive symptom association probability and an increased esophageal Th-2 signal in reflux esophagitis.

KEY POINTS

- GERD patients with positive symptom association probability demonstrated significantly higher duodenal Th2 intensity compared to healthy controls ($p=0.01$), with no significant differences in Th1 or Th17 intensities.
- Reflux esophagitis showed significantly higher esophageal Th2 intensity ($p<0.0001$) and elevated CD8 intensity ($p=0.002$), while eosinophilic esophagitis and lymphocytic esophagitis showed elevated Th-17 intensity.
- Duodenal Th2 intensity was significantly higher in GERD patients with atopy, upright reflux, low esophageal contraction amplitude, and failed peristalsis.
- No differences were found in duodenal inflammatory cell counts or architectural abnormalities between GERD and healthy controls on routine histopathology.
- The material is most relevant to researchers investigating immune mechanisms in GERD and clinicians interested in potential immunological phenotypes of reflux disease.

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