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Summary

DECIPHERING THE PRODROME OF INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE UP TO 10 YEARS BEFORE DISEASE ONSET BY MASSIVELY PARALLEL SEROLOGY

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UEG Week Barcelona 2026 | Presentation

Colorectal | IBD

October 19, 2026

High-throughput antibody profiling identifies distinct serological changes up to 10 years before inflammatory bowel disease onset, enabling disease prediction with high accuracy.

KEY POINTS

- Machine learning models integrating antibody repertoires discriminated future Crohn's disease (AUC=0.90) and ulcerative colitis (AUC=0.84) from controls up to 10 years pre-diagnosis.
- Antibody repertoires differentiated complicated from non-complicated Crohn's disease up to approximately 10 years pre-diagnosis with high accuracy (AUC=0.85).
- Elevated herpesvirus-directed antibody responses (notably Epstein-Barr virus and cytomegalovirus) were observed in individuals who later developed Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis.
- Responses to encapsulated bacteria including Streptococcus pneumoniae, Haemophilus, and Neisseria progressively declined towards diagnosis in pre-Crohn's disease individuals.
- Anti-flagellin antibodies were elevated particularly in individuals who later developed complicated or ileal Crohn's disease.
- Antibody repertoire diversity was significantly lower in pre-Crohn's disease ($P<0.05$) and pre-ulcerative colitis ($P<0.001$) sera compared to healthy controls.

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