

CMV INFECTION IN ULCERATIVE COLITIS: FOCUS ON TISSUE PCR AND IMMUNOHISTOCHEMISTRY

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Poster

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A prospective study of 21 UC patients found moderate concordance between immunohistochemistry and tissue PCR for CMV detection, with higher tissue viral loads observed in steroid-refractory compared to steroid-responsive patients.

KEY POINTS

- CMV was detected by tissue PCR in 23.8% of patients, by IHC in 14.3%, and by plasma PCR in 14.3%, with a kappa concordance index of 0.500 between IHC and tissue PCR.
- Mean tissue CMVDNA levels were higher in steroid-refractory patients compared to steroid-responsive patients (140.00 vs 98.00 copies/mg), though the difference was not statistically significant ($p=0.14$).
- A tissue CMVDNA cut-off of 102.56 copies/mg yielded 92.86% sensitivity but only 33.3% specificity for distinguishing steroid-refractory from steroid-responsive patients, with an AUC of 0.67.
- The study enrolled consecutive UC patients undergoing endoscopy regardless of disease activity at a single tertiary center between July 2024 and January 2025, with 28.6% classified as steroid-refractory.

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