

# CME: Current & Emerging Advanced Therapeutics in the IBD Landscape

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# *Current & Emerging Advanced Therapeutics in Inflammatory Bowel Disease*

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# Disclosure

The following relevant financial relationships have been disclosed by faculty, and all have been mitigated.

- **Neilanjan Nandi, MD, FACP:** Consultant for AbbVie, Boehringer-Ingelheim, BMS, Janssen, and Pfizer.
- Moderators and non-faculty contributors involved in the planning, development, editing and review of the content have disclosed no relevant financial relationships.

Off-Label/Investigational Discussion:

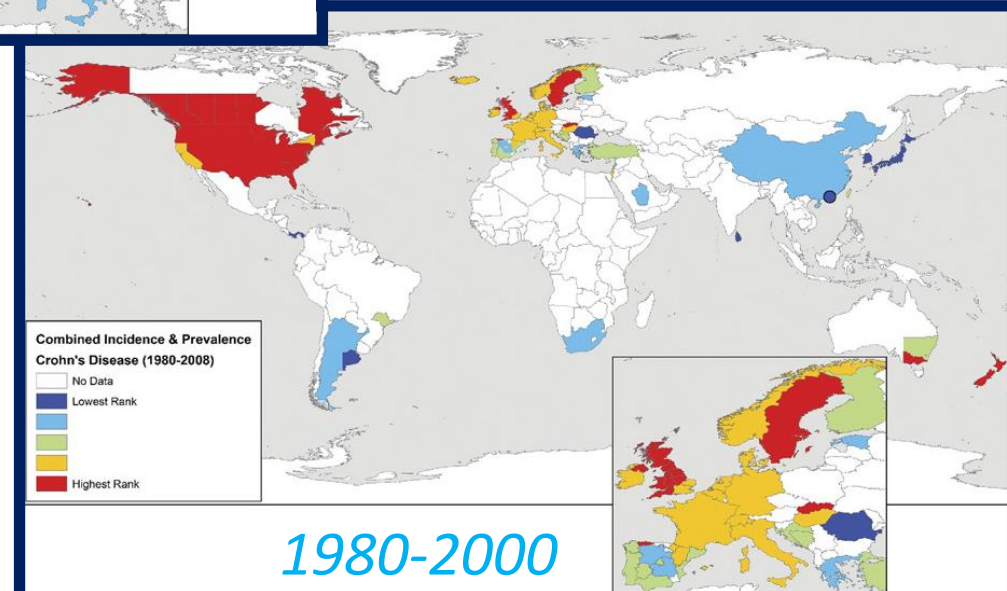
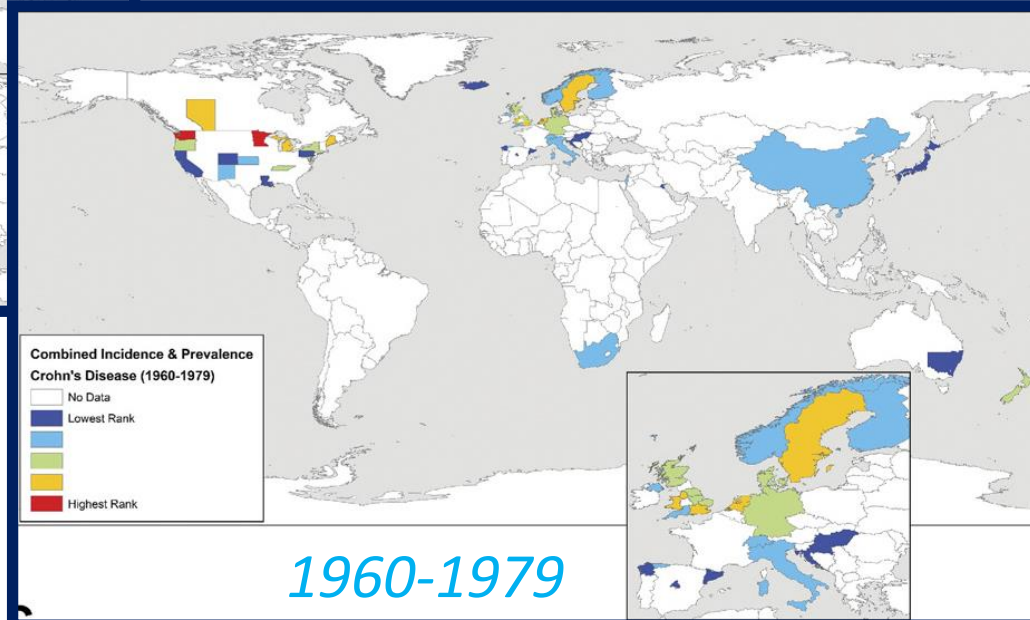
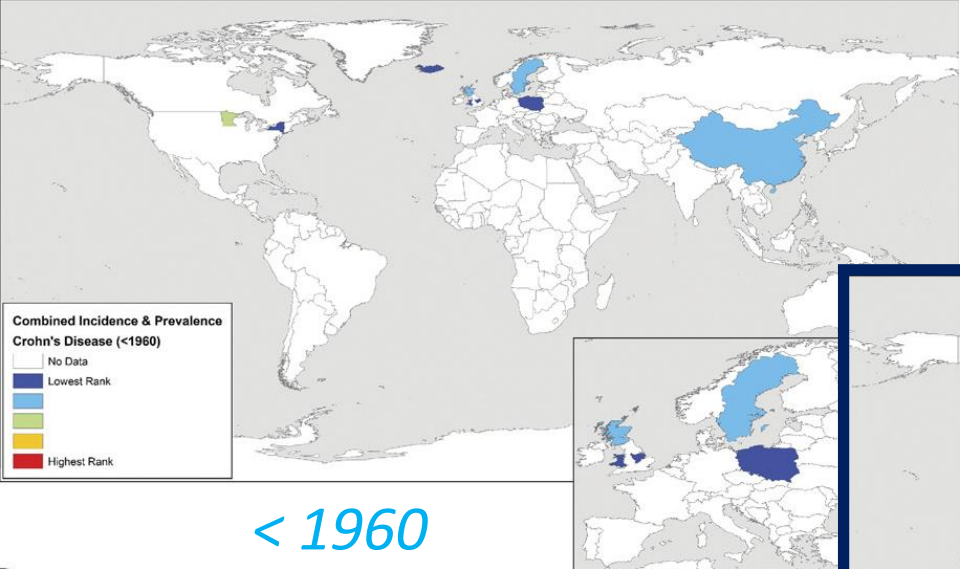
Faculty have been asked to disclose discussion of unlabeled or unapproved use(s) of drugs or devices, as well as topics that are new and evolving, during the course of their presentations.

# *Learning Objectives*

- Review the epidemiology of Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD)
- Highlight key differences in the clinical presentation of the two major IBD phenotypes:  
Crohn's disease and Ulcerative colitis
- Identify the basic mechanisms of action of different biologic and small molecule therapies in treating IBD
- Understand new research into the role of hyperbaric oxygen therapy, mesenchymal stem cell therapy and microbiota restorative therapy for different forms of IBD

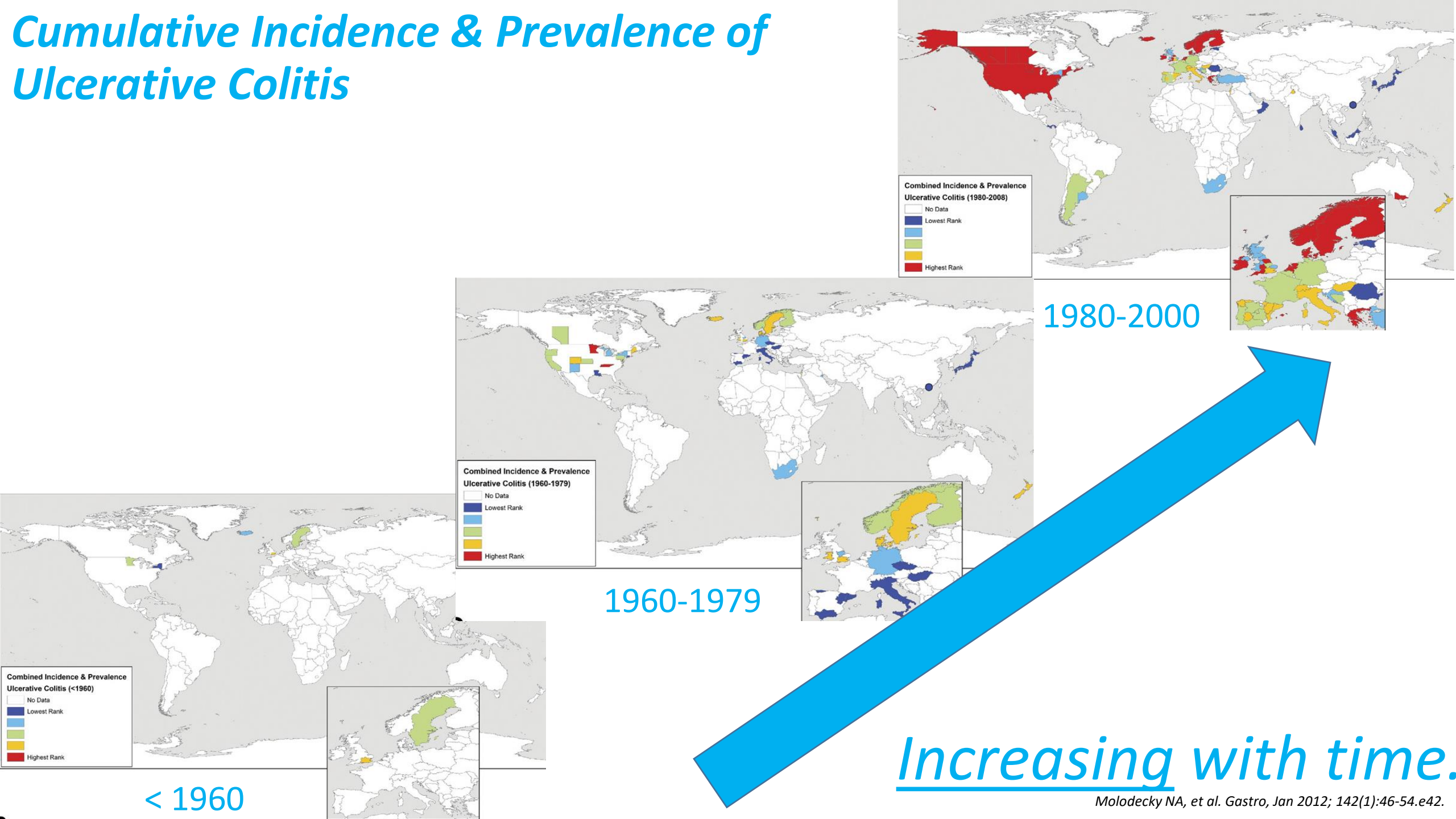
***EPIDEMIOLOGY***  
***&***  
***ETIOLOGY***

# Cumulative Incidence & Prevalence of Crohn's



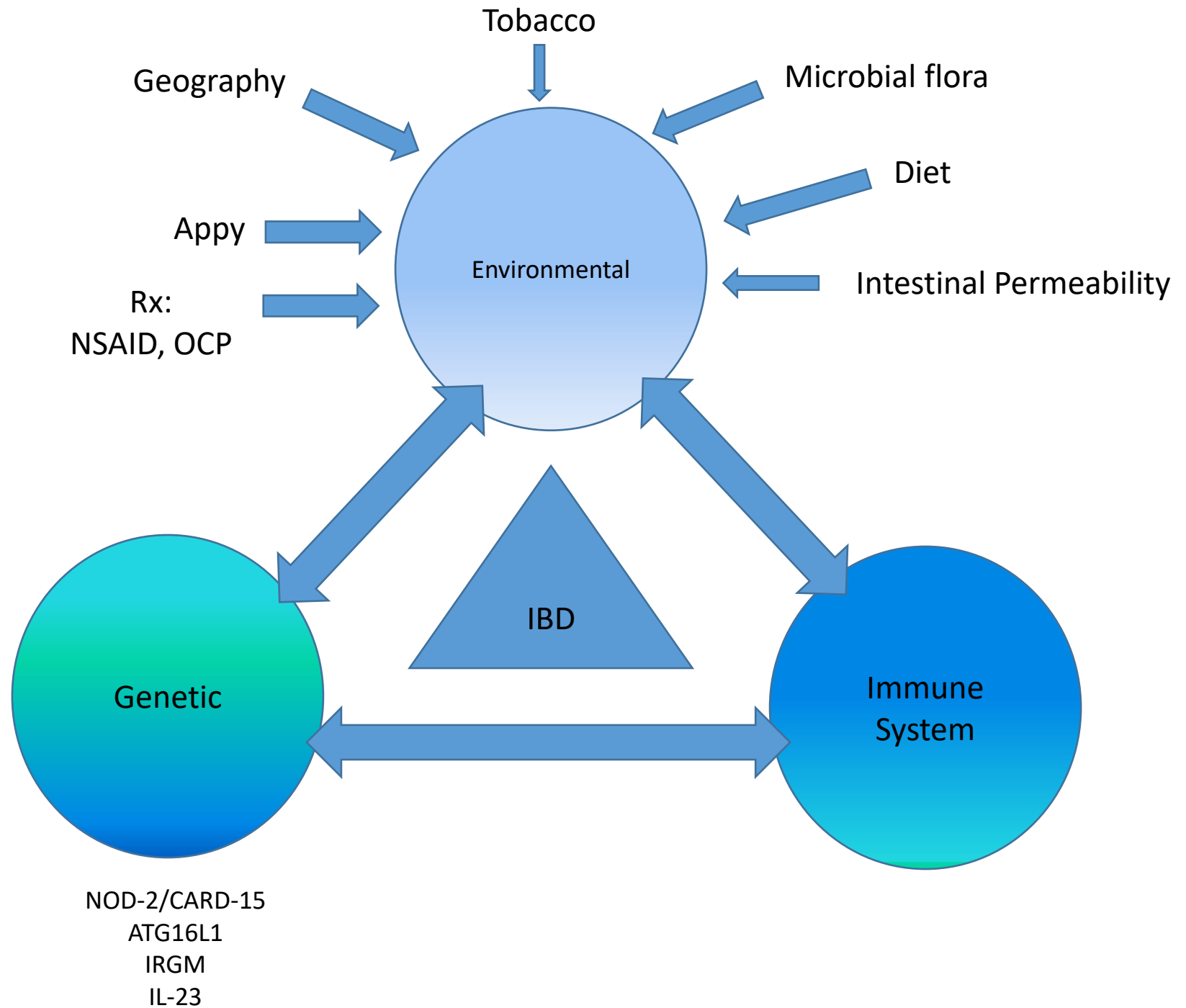
Increasing with time.

# Cumulative Incidence & Prevalence of Ulcerative Colitis



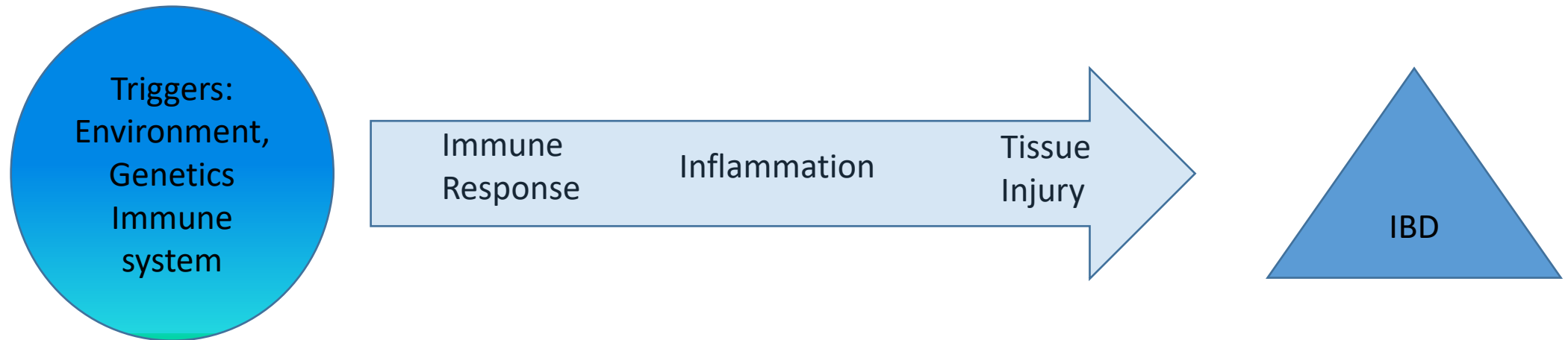


# ETIOLOGY



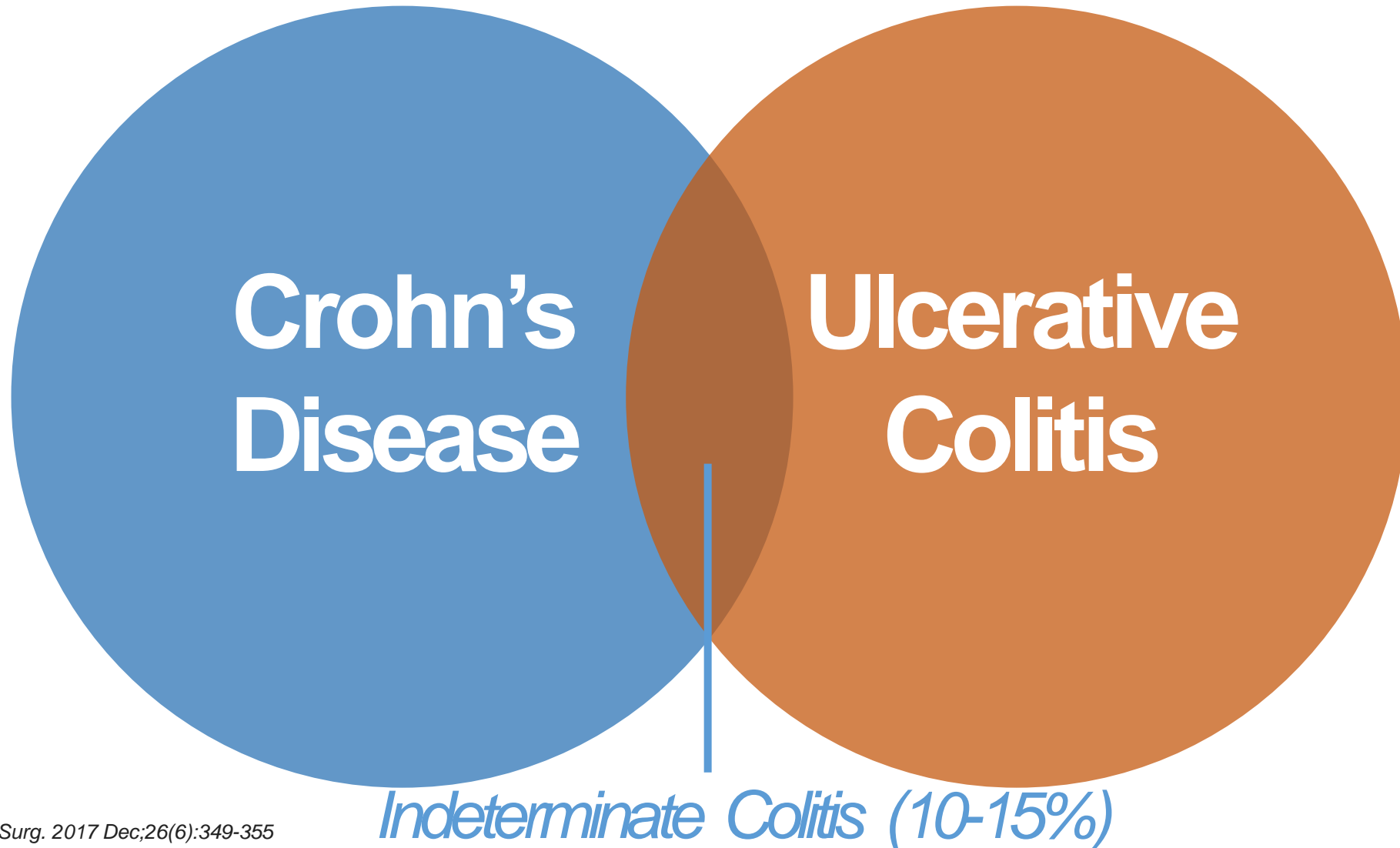


# ETIOLOGY



# IBD Spectrum

Chronic inflammatory conditions characterized by *relapsing & remitting* episodes of inflammation



**Crohn's  
Disease**

**Ulcerative  
Colitis**

*Indeterminate Colitis (10-15%)*

# Key Concepts

IBD is an immune mediated, chronic, inflammatory condition with relapsing & remitting course

Two Major IBD Phenotypes - Crohn's & Ulcerative Colitis

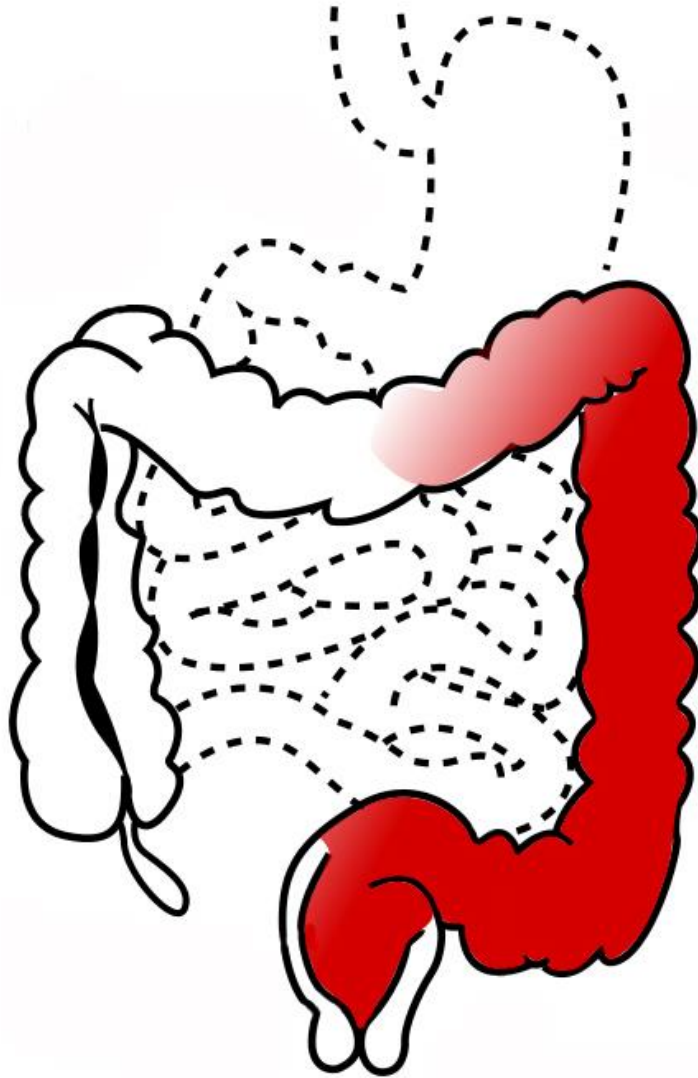
10-15% w/Overlapping features: Indeterminate Colitis

Increasing global incidence & prevalence, esp in developing countries

Etiology Multi-factorial : Genetic, Immune, Microbiota, Diet, Environmental & MORE !

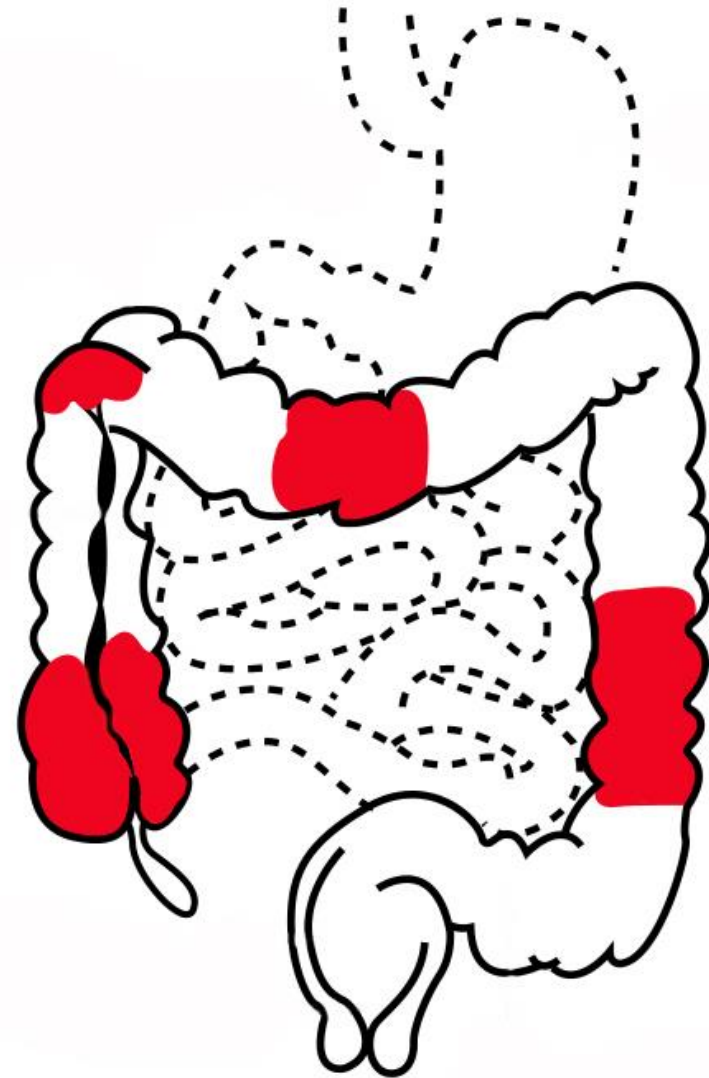
# ***CLINICAL MANIFESTATIONS***

## Ulcerative Colitis

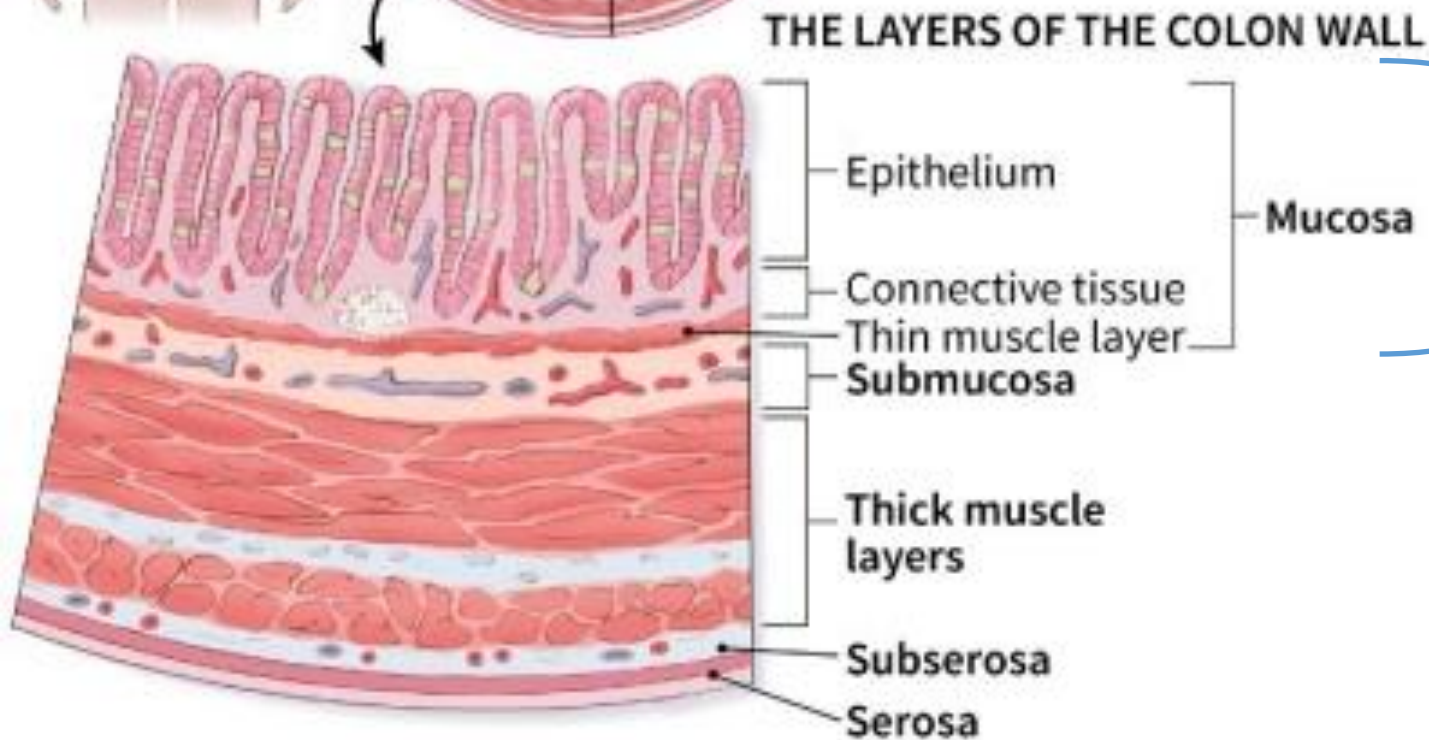
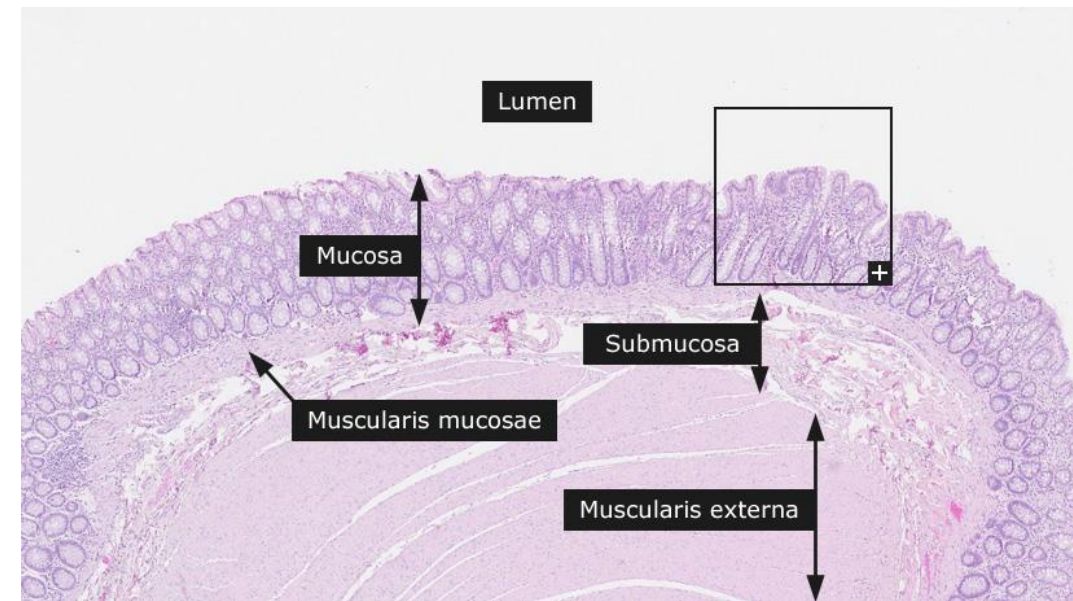
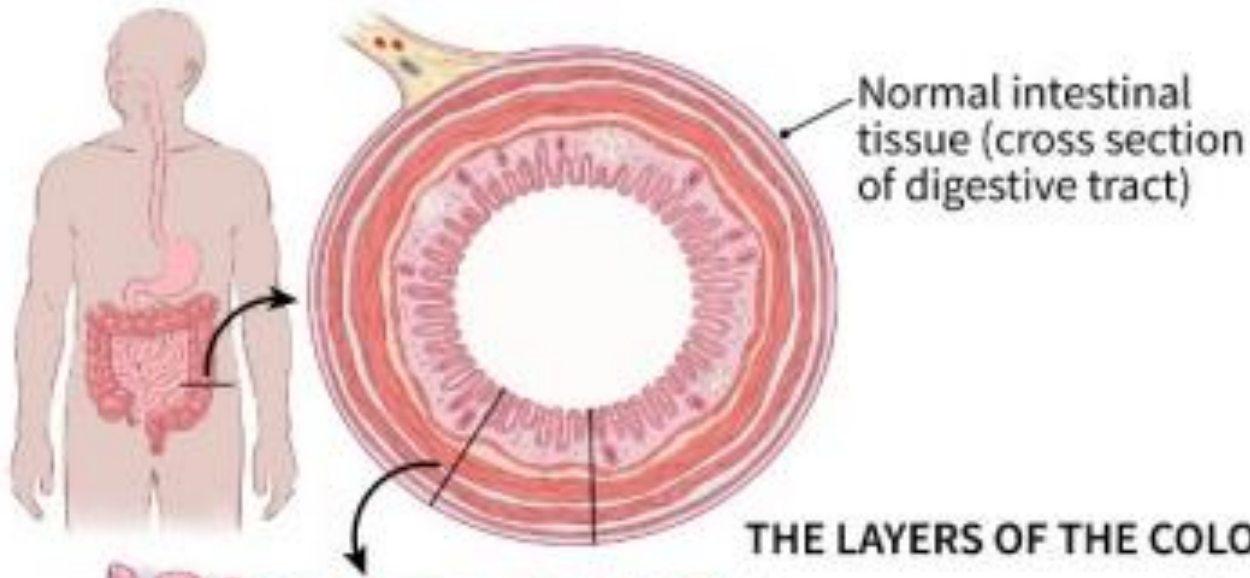


*Confluent,  
Colon only*

## Crohn's Disease



*Skip lesions,  
Mouth to Anus*



*Ulcerative  
Colitis  
(mucosal)*

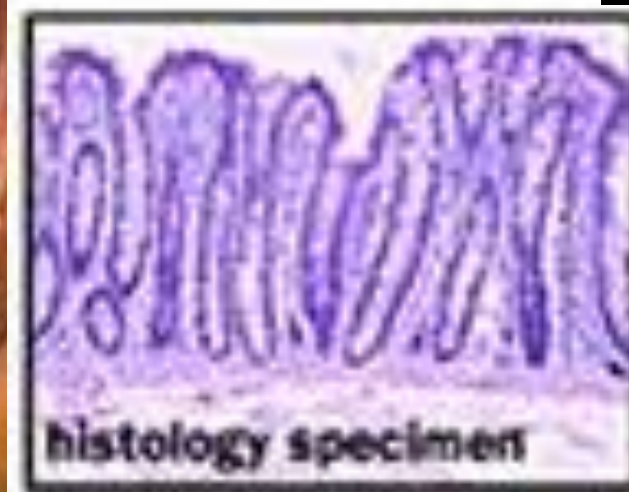
*Crohn's  
disease  
(transmural)*

# Classic IBD: Distinguishing Characteristics

	Ulcerative Colitis	Crohn's disease
<b>Symptoms</b>	Bloody diarrhea	Rarely bloody, Weight loss, Diarrhea, Abd Pain, EIM's
<b>Disease involvement</b>	Colon only	Any part of the GI tract
<b>Rectal disease</b>	Rectal involvement	Rectal sparing
<b>Perianal disease</b>	Absent	Common
<b>Pattern of distribution</b>	Continuous	Skip lesions
<b>Tissue involvement</b>	Mucosal	Transmural
<b>Colonoscopy findings</b>	Confluent ulceration, friability (bleeding mucosa), Aphthous ulcers	Aphthous ulcers, serpiginous ulcers, Cobblestoning 'skip' lesions
<b>Histologic findings</b>	No granulomas	Non-caseating granulomas in ~20%
<b>Effect of smoking</b>	Protective in some	Predicts aggressive course
<b>Disease complications</b>	Severe colitis, Toxic Megacolon, Colon cancer	Fistulae, Strictures Colon or Small Bowel cancer

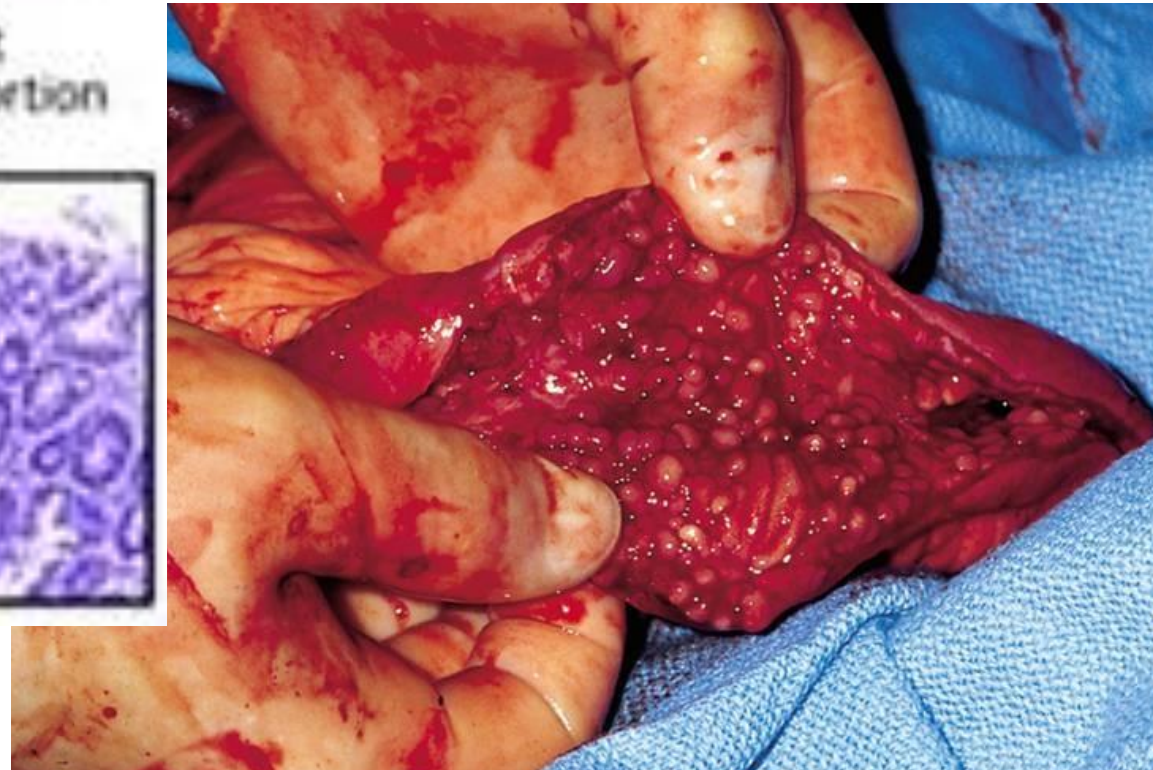
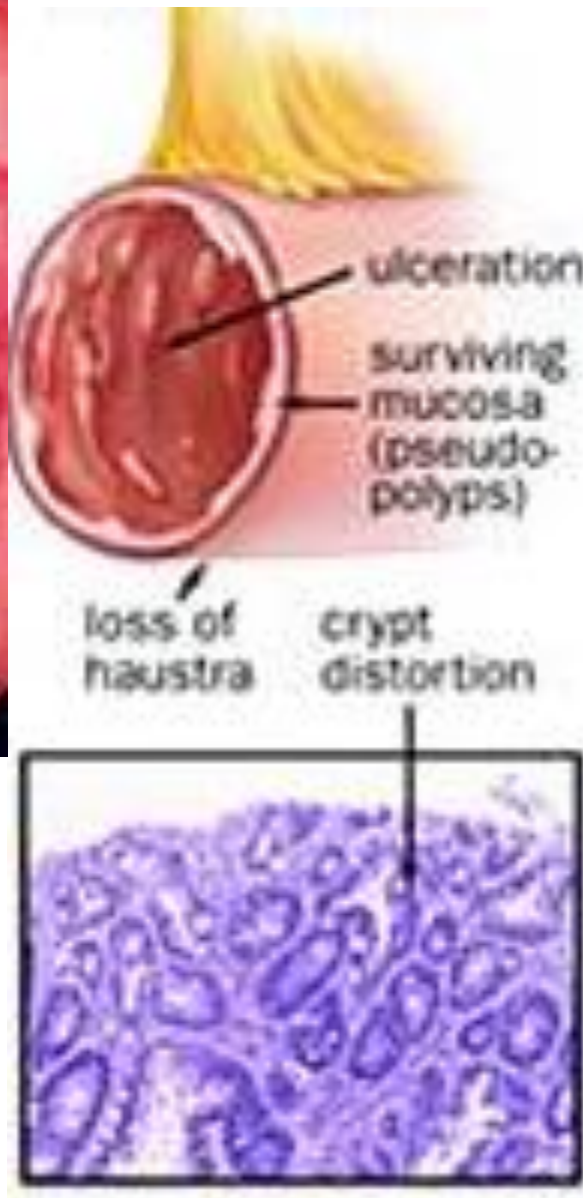


# Normal Colon



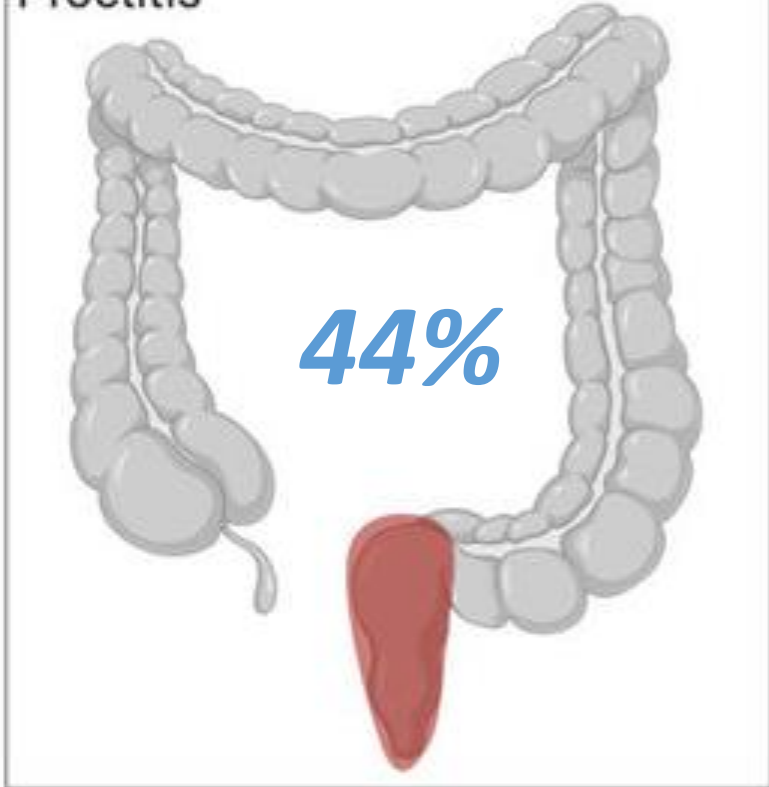


# Ulcerative Colitis



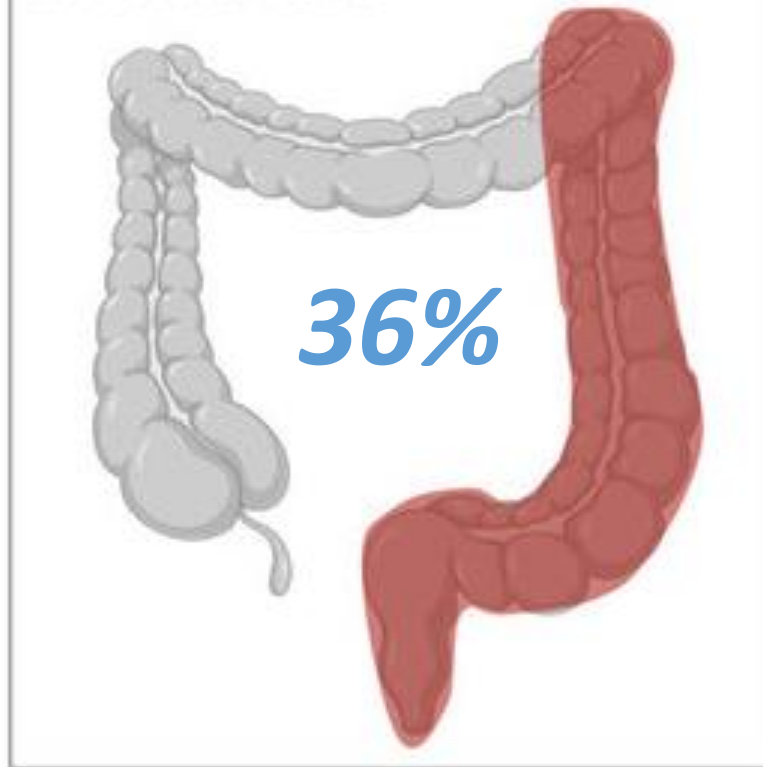
# ***Affected Site of Disease: Ulcerative Colitis***

Proctitis



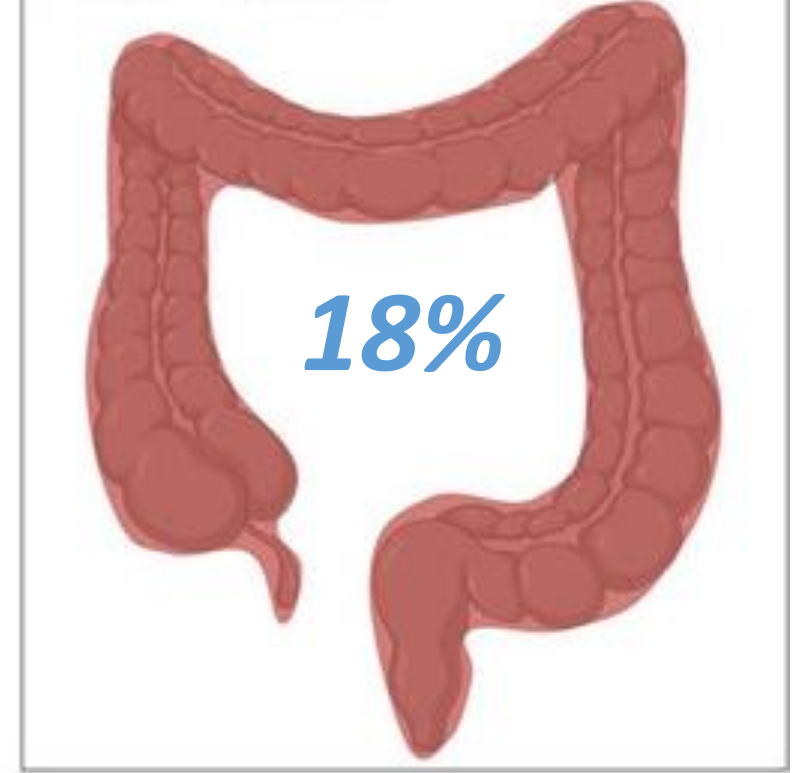
Confined to Rectum

Left-sided colitis



Up to Splenic Flexure

Extensive colitis



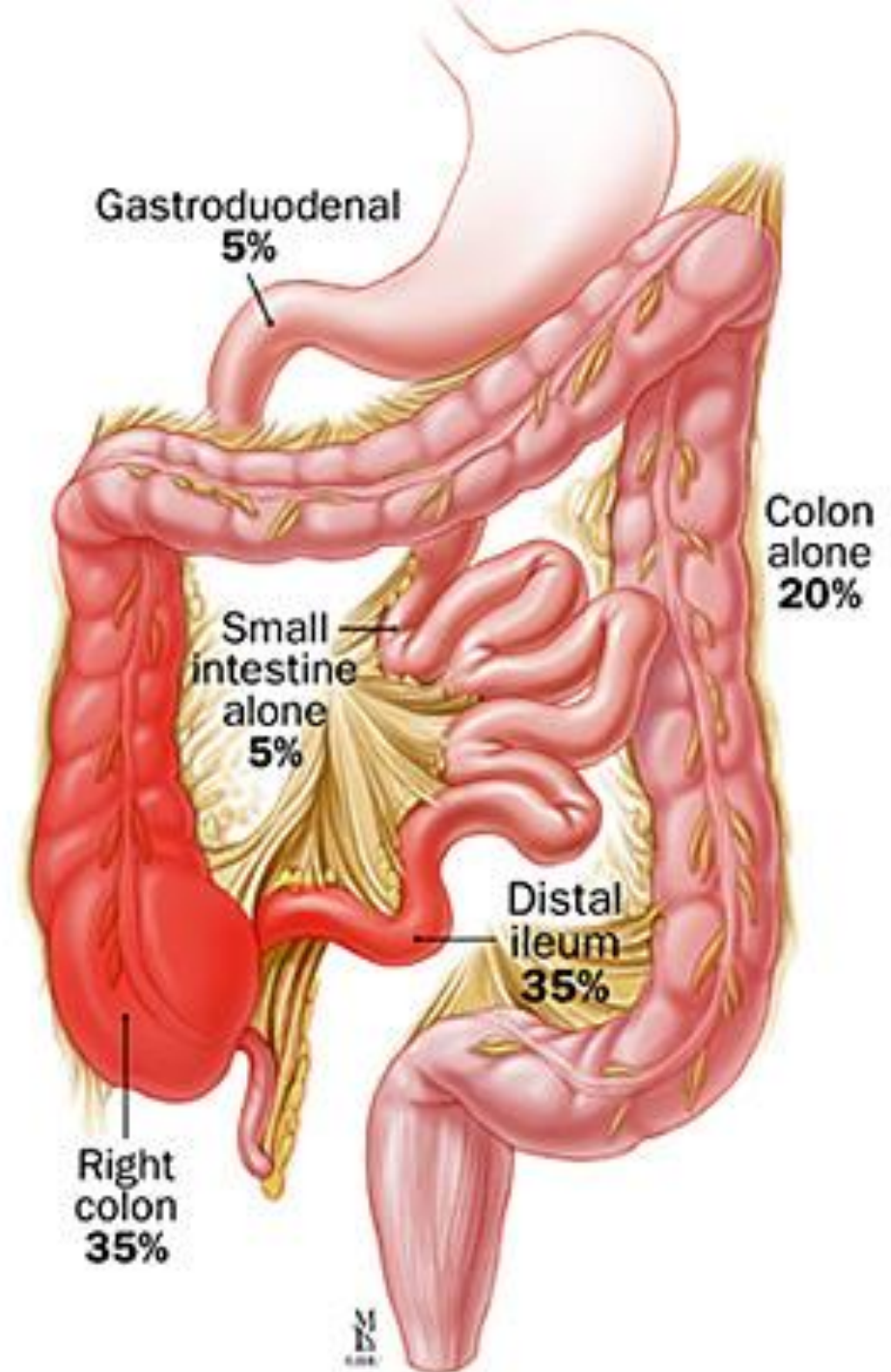
Beyond Splenic flexure  
Often involving entire colon  
(pancolitis)



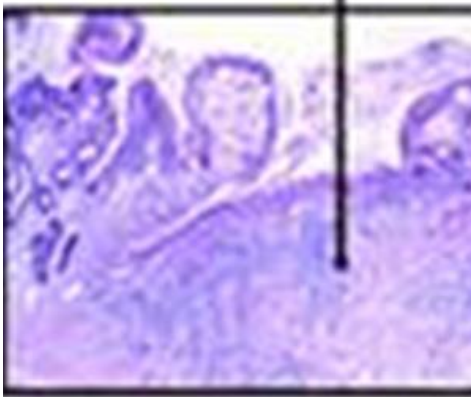
# Crohn's Disease

Majority of Crohn's patients have Ileal and/or Colonic disease

Modern day studies suggest we may be under diagnosing Upper GI (UGI) Crohn's, perhaps as common as 5-25% of CD patients w/UGI CD

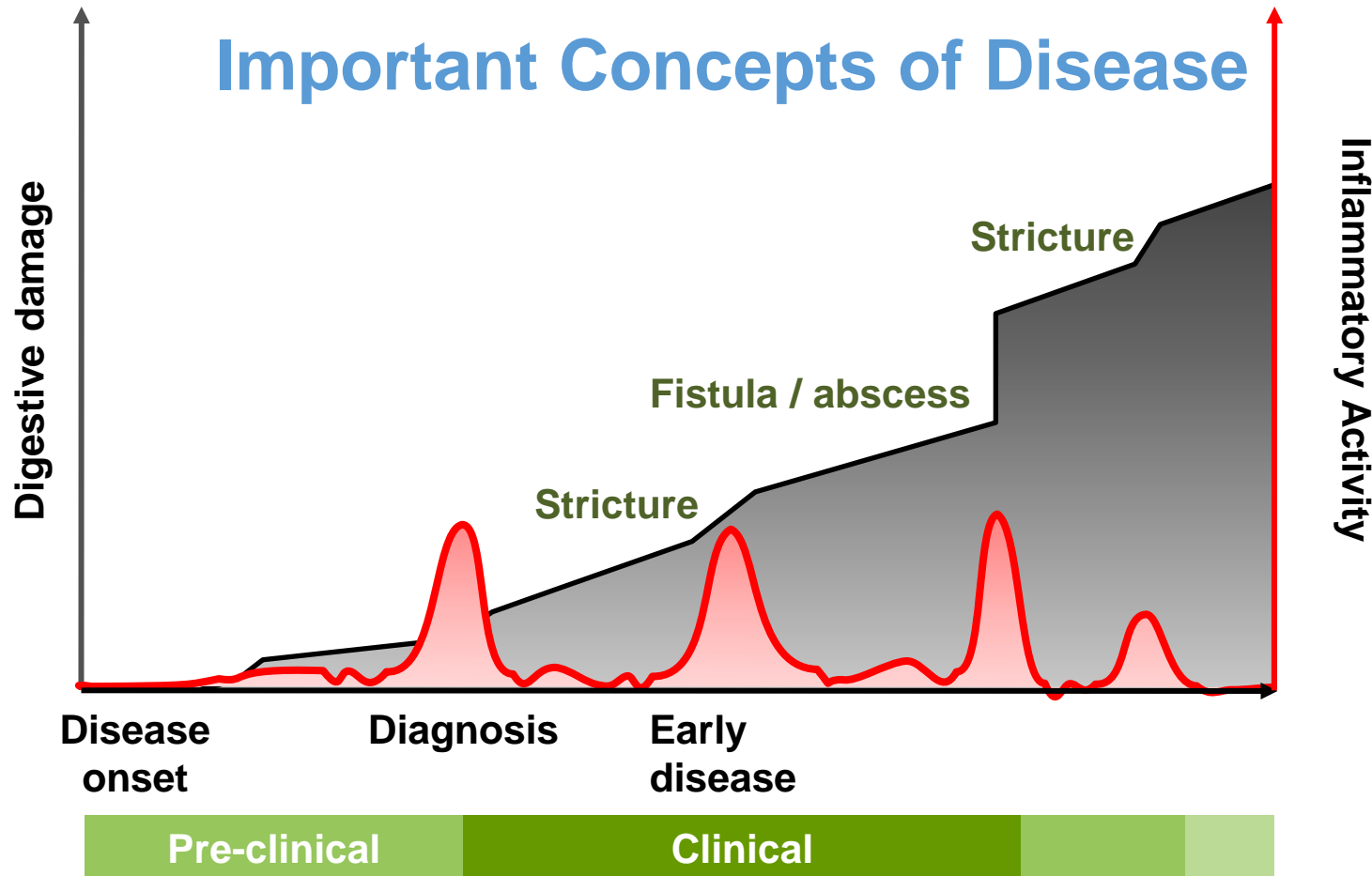


# *Crohn's Disease*



# Relapsing & Remitting Inflammatory Time Course

## Important Concepts of Disease



- Life-long, chronic disease, without cure
- Waxing & waning disease course with 'flare' & 'remission'
- Complications and bowel damage accumulate

# Key Concepts

***Ulcerative colitis*** involves only the colon and affects the inner most intestinal lining (mucosa).

***Crohn's disease*** can affect mucosa through the wall of the intestine (transmural) at any area of the intestine from mouth to anus, although ileum & colon most commonly involved.

***In CD:*** Unchecked disease over a lifetime can result in strictures, fistulae and abscesses

***In UC:*** Unchecked disease can lead to scarring and atony of the colon if not bloody diarrhea alone.

***In Both:*** Unchecked disease can increase the lifetime risk of intestinal cancer



# Medical Treatment Concepts

**AVOID** long-term steroids due to numerous and predictable side effects & adverse events.  
Instead, favor Steroid-Sparing therapies.

Late start of Steroid Sparing therapy does **NOT** prevent complications of disease (stricture, fistula, abscess, cancer, flare).  
Rather, start Steroid sparing therapy **EARLY** !

Many treatments require higher doses of a medicine known as **Induction** treatment.  
This is followed by a dose provided at regular intervals every few weeks or months known as **Maintenance** treatment.

## Medical Treatment Options

Corticosteroids

Mesalamines

Immunomodulators: 6-MP, Azathioprine

Methotrexate

Monoclonal Antibodies (aka, Biologics)

Cytokine Blockade

Anti-TNFs: Infliximab, Adalimumab, Certoluzimab, Golimumab

Anti-IL-12/23: Ustekinumab

Lymphocyte Trafficking Inhibitors

Anti-Integrin: Vedoluzimab

Small Molecule Therapies (non-protein/antibody)

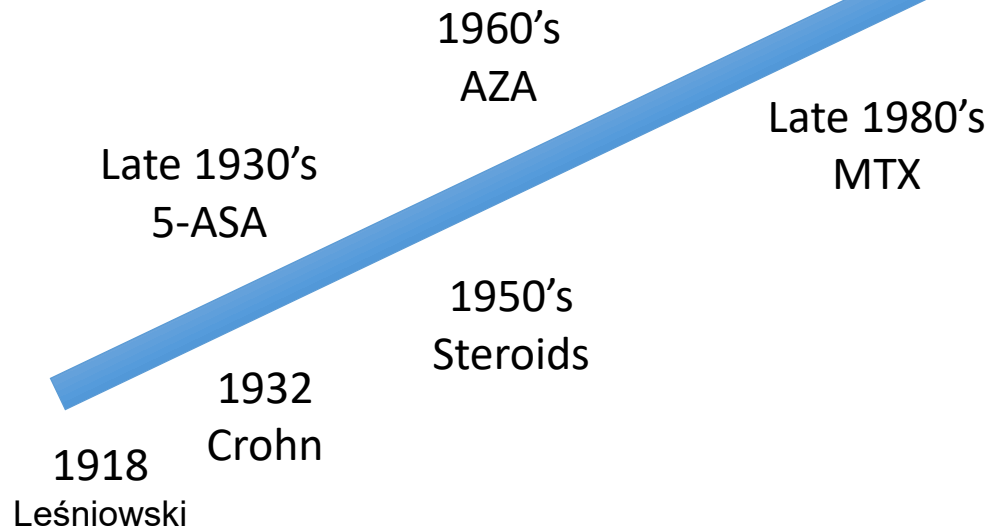
Janus Kinase Inhibitors: Tofacitinib, Upadacitinib

S1P: Ozanimod

# ***IBD Therapeutics: Evolution to Revolution***

*Surgery & Steroids remained the mainstay of therapy*

*for the entire 20<sup>th</sup> century*



# Corticosteroids

- Rapid onset
- IV in hospitalized patients
- PO outpatient, 40-60 mg/day w/gradual taper by 5 mg/week
- Chronic therapy assoc'd w/intolerable side effects & adverse events

*Prednisone : 'The all the time eating, bone thinning , shaking , weight gaining, so you can never sleep again medicine !*

- Budesonide: Limited systemic circulation so minimal to no side effects, only helpful in Mild-Moderate ileo-colonic disease



## Innate immunity

Plasmacytoid dendritic cell

Keratinocyte

INF- $\alpha$

IL-1 $\beta$ , IL-6  
TNF- $\alpha$

TNF inhibitors

TNF- $\alpha$

Dendritic cell

Macrophage

TNF- $\alpha$  |—| TNF inhibitors

## Adaptive immunity

Th1

IL-12

IL-23

Th17

IFN- $\gamma$   
IL-2  
TNF- $\alpha$

|—| TNF inhibitors

|—| IL-12/23 inhibitors

|—| IL-23 inhibitors

IL-17A  
IL-17F  
IL-21  
IL-22

|—| IL-17A inhibitors

## Innate immunity

IL-17R inhibitor

Keratinocyte

Mast cell

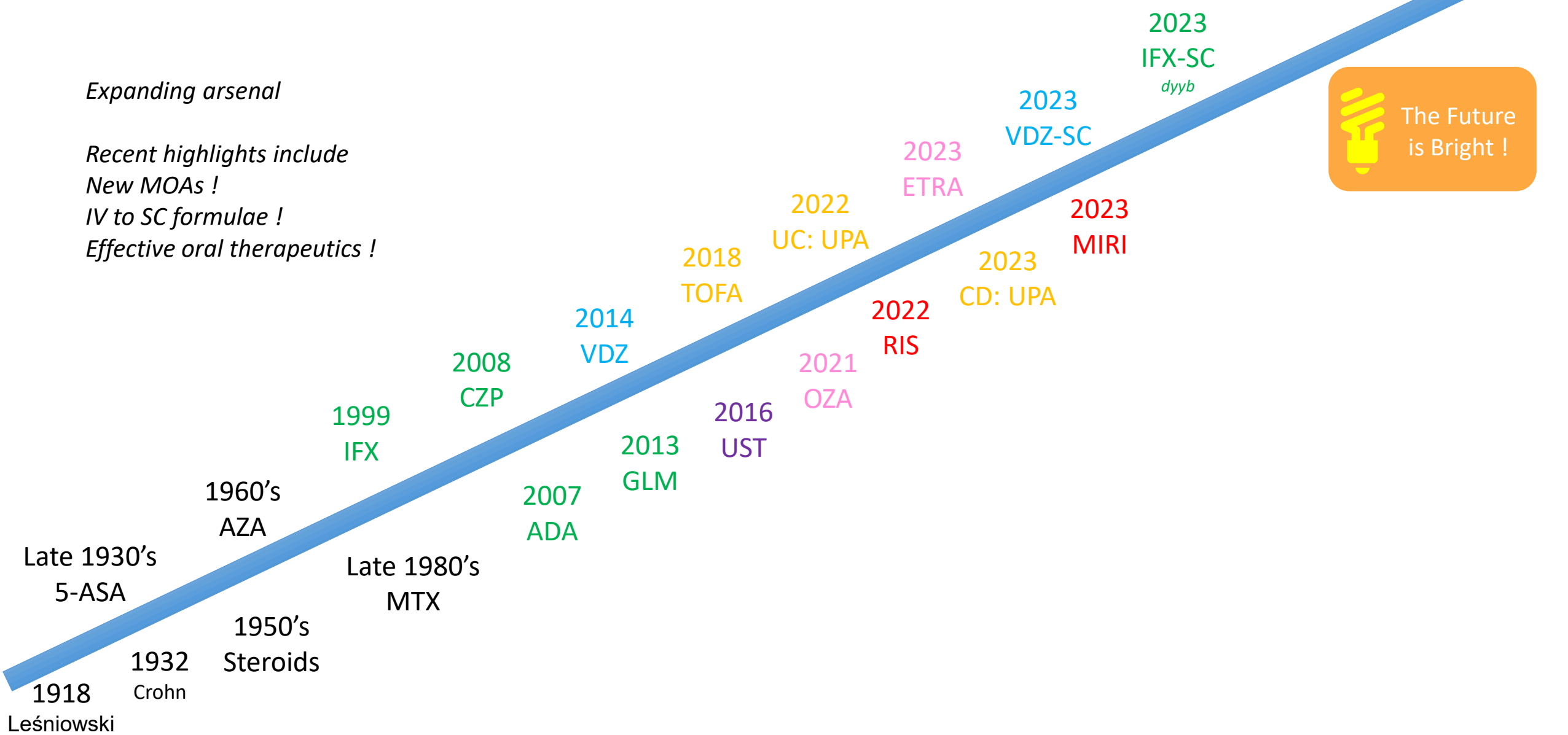
IL-17A

Neutrophil

TNF- $\alpha$

|—| TNF inhibitors

# IBD Therapeutics: Evolution to Revolution



# Biologics : Anti-TNFs

Introduced in 1998

Anti-cytokine therapy:

Tumor Necrosis Factor

Depending on type, administered via  
IV infusion or Subcutaneous injection

Side Effects rare, Possible increased risk of

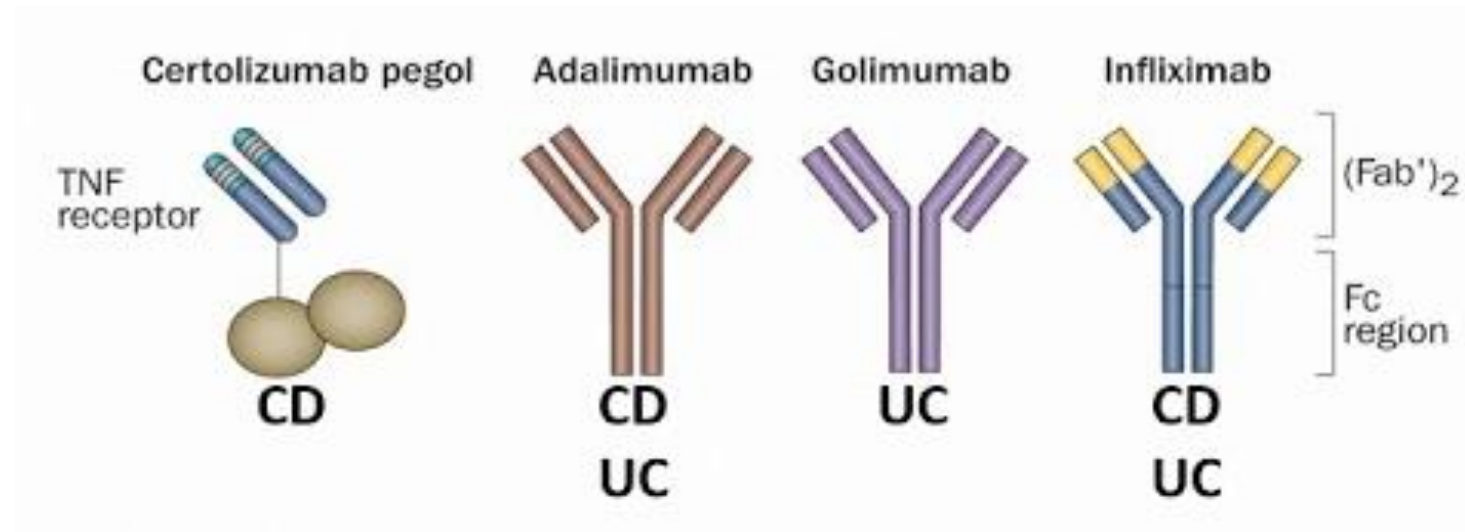
Infection (Screen for Hepatitis B and Tuberculosis)

Skin cancer

Infusion reactions

Heart failure

Developing antibodies against the Anti-TNF agent (immunogenicity)



Some agents approved for Crohn's and/or UC



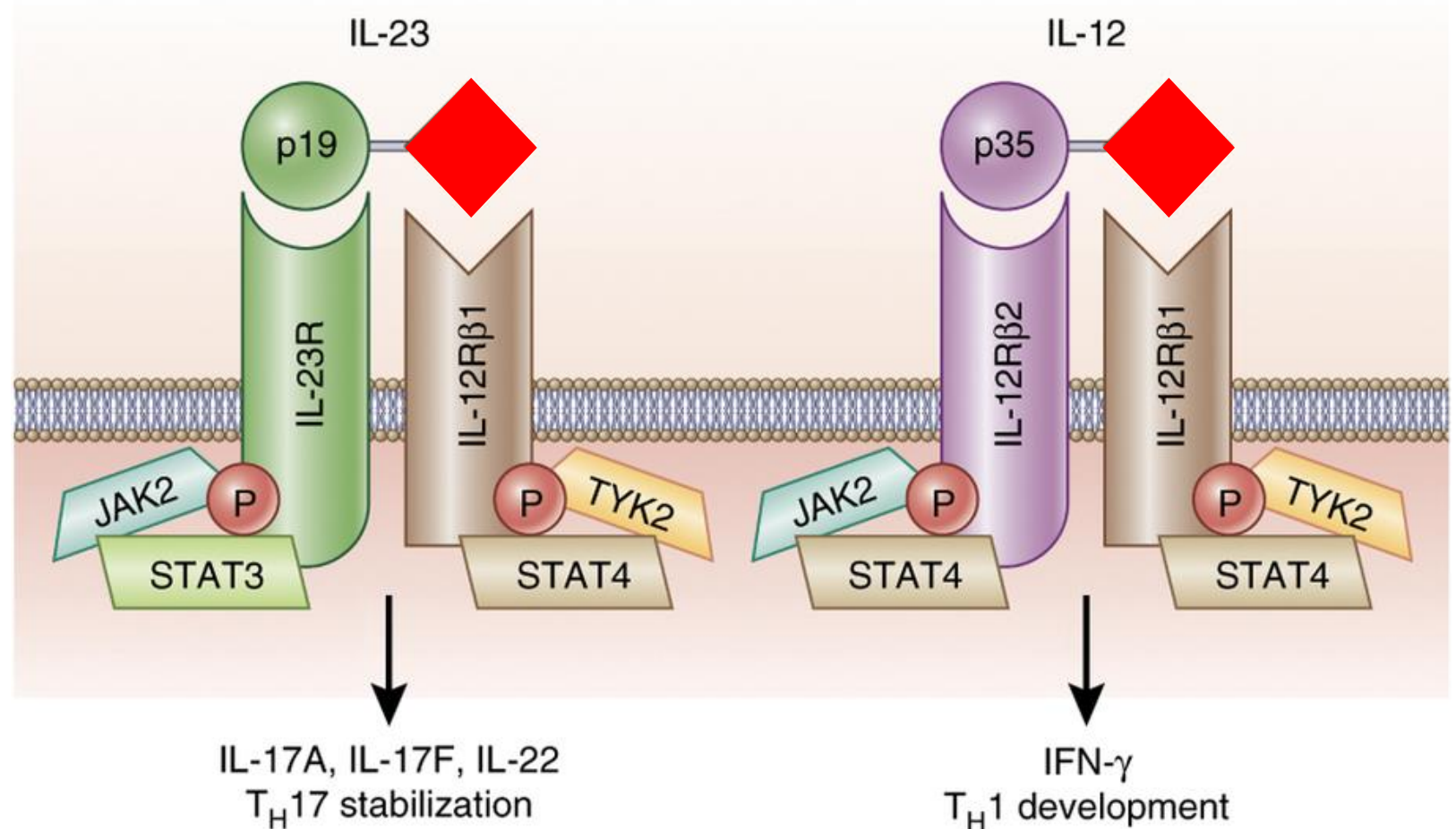
# Biologics : Anti-IL-12/23 - Ustekinumab

Antibody directed to p40 subunit  
shared by both IL-12 and IL-23

Approved for both Crohn's and UC

Good efficacy, Less immunogenic

Screen for Hepatitis B and Tuberculosis





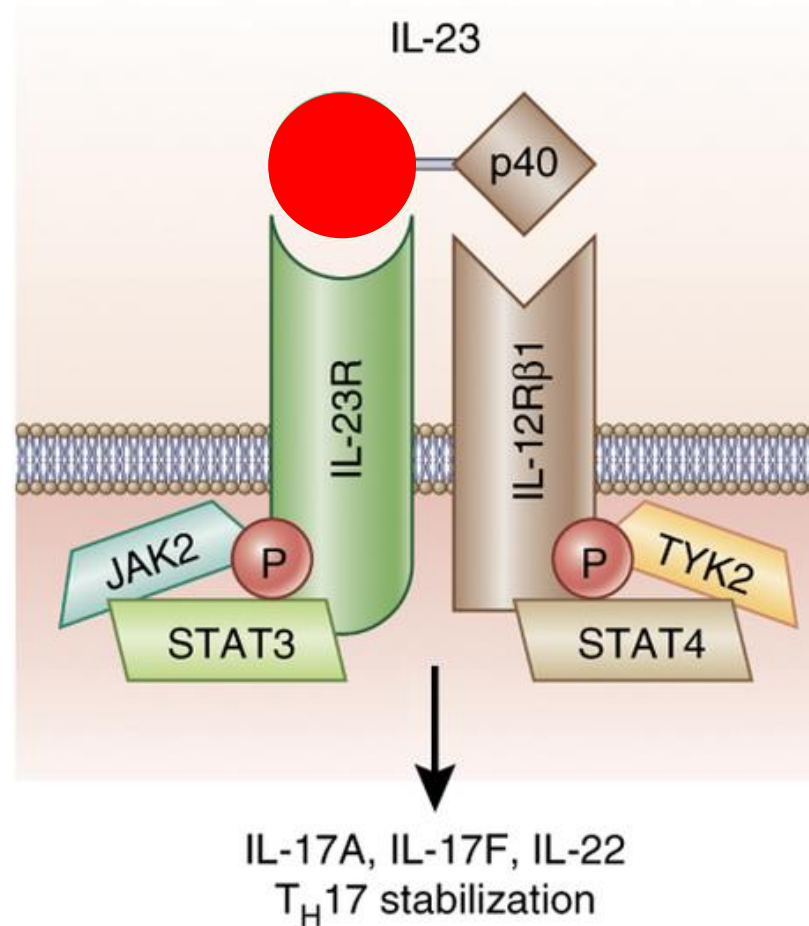
# Biologics : *Anti-IL-23 – Risankizumab, Mirikizumab*

Antibody directed to p19 subunit  
unique to only IL-23

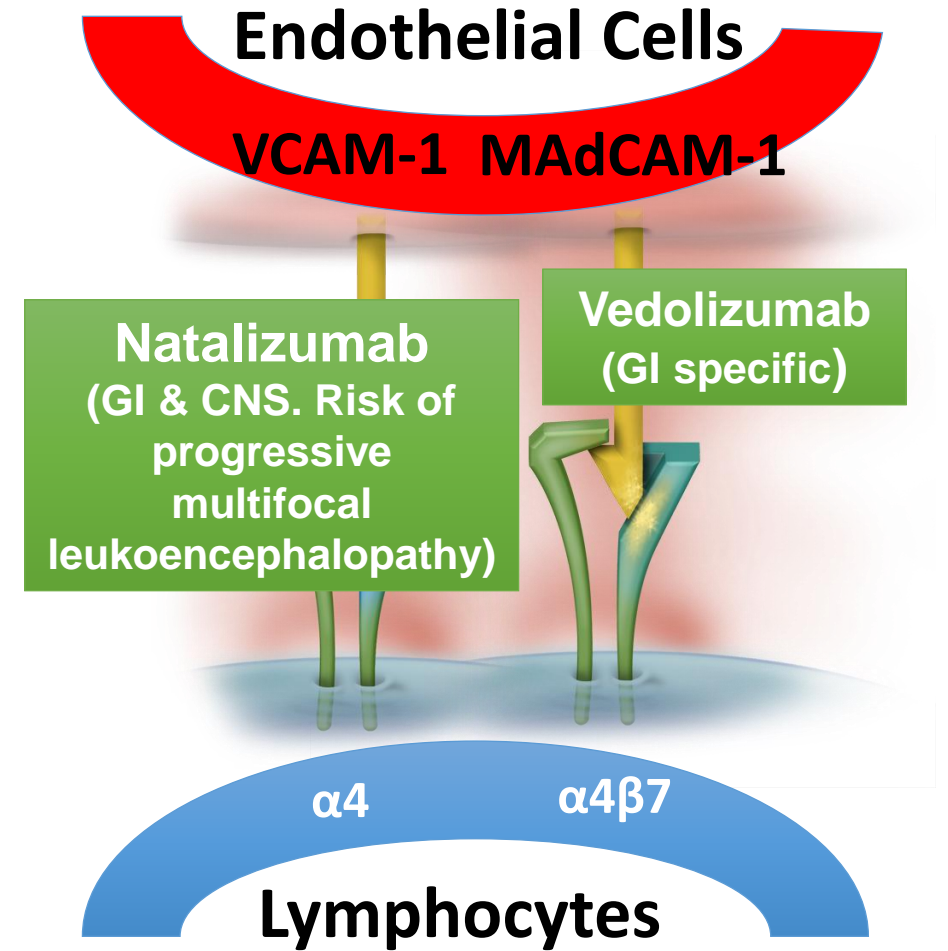
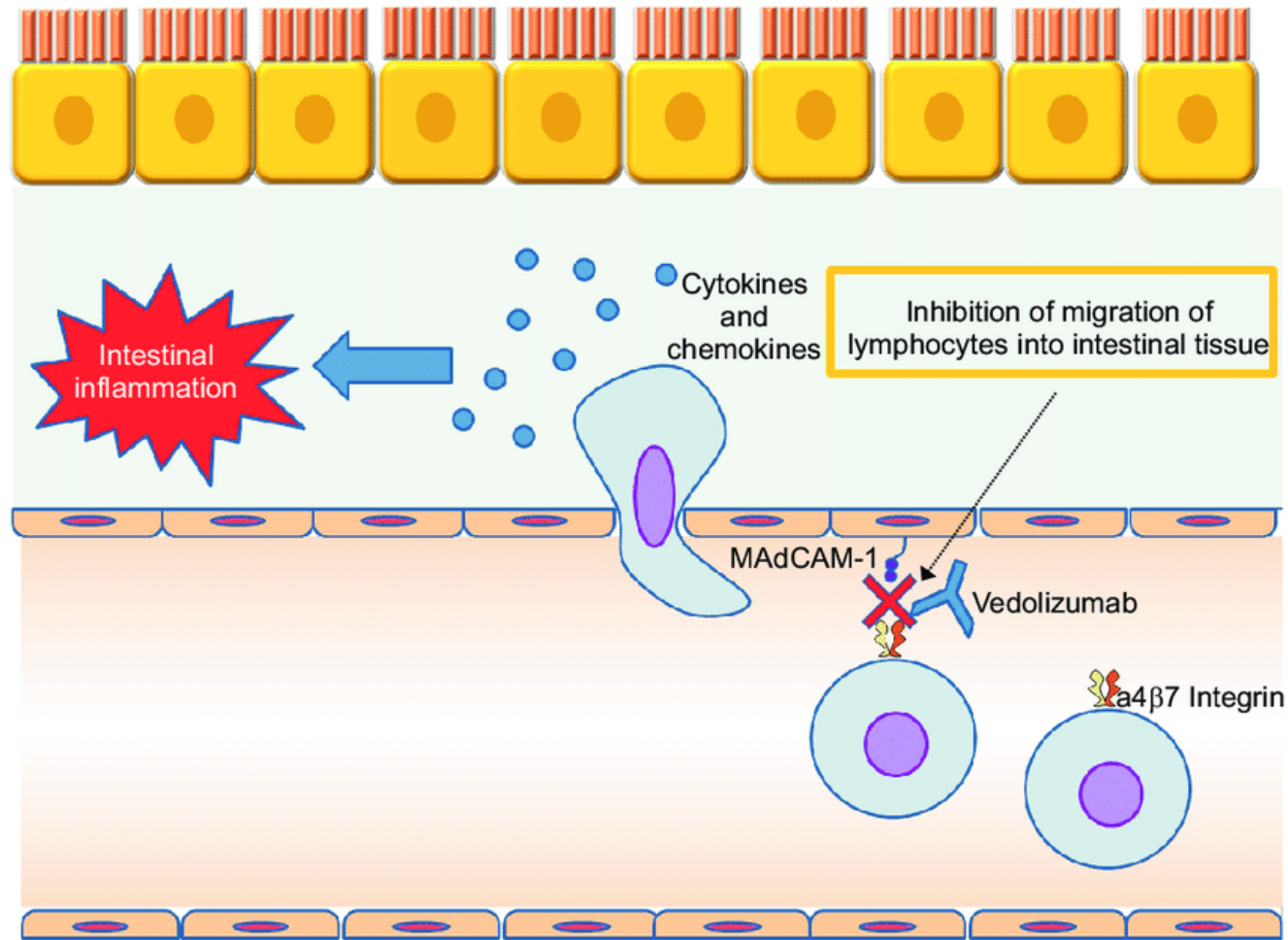
RIS - Approved for Crohn's  
MIRI – Approved for UC

Good efficacy, Less immunogenic

Screen for Hepatitis B and Tuberculosis



# Biologics : Anti-Integrin - Vedoluzimab



Does NOT block cytokines. Instead, prevents leukocytes from traveling to gut.

Vedoluzimab does not affect CNS, therefore no reported PML. Natalizumab not utilized in modern practice.

Vedoluzimab does **NOT** reactivate dormant Hepatitis B or Tuberculosis.

# Small Molecule : JAK Inhibitor – Tofacitinib, Upadacitinib

Cytokine-Receptor binding promotes JAK polymerization

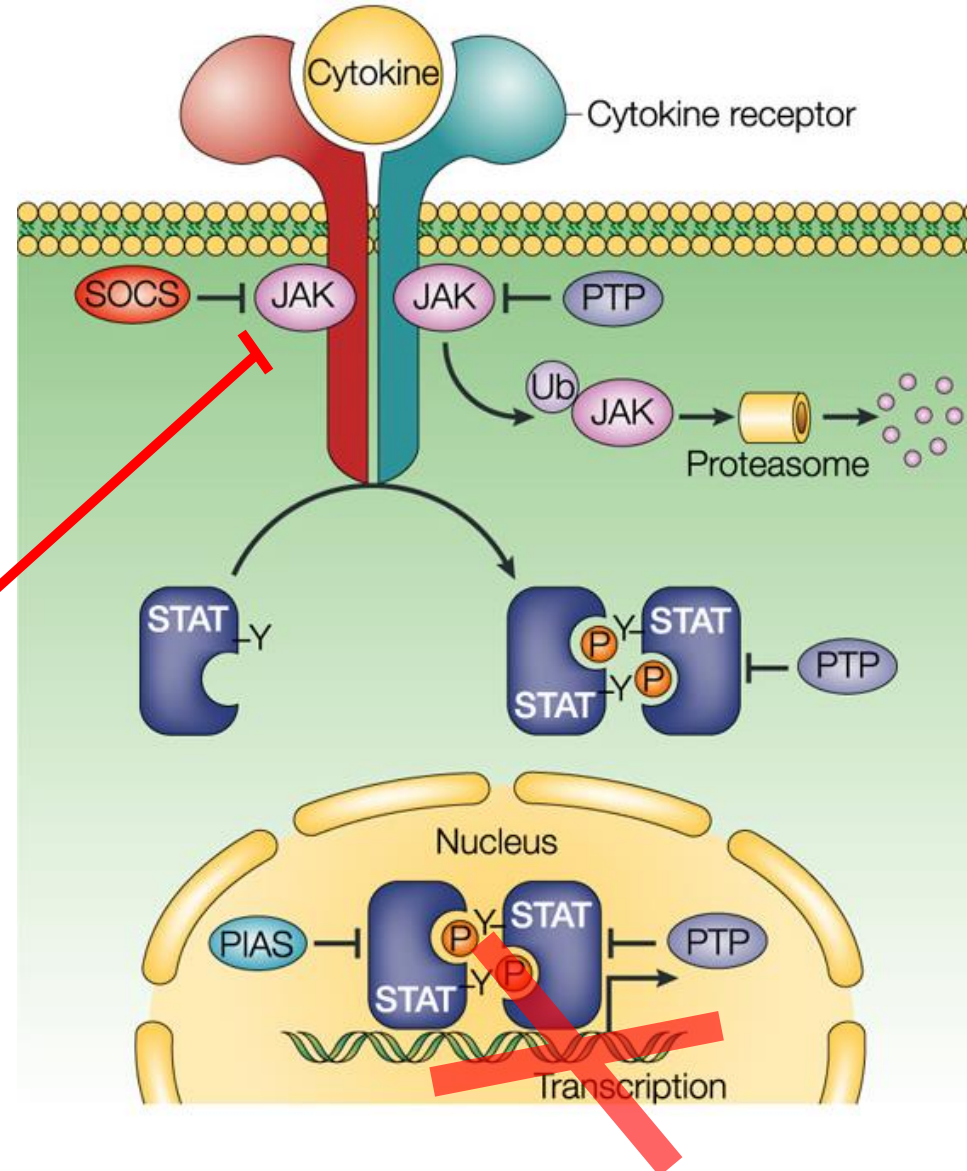
In turn, JAK phosphorylates STATs

Phosphorylated STATs promote transcription & cytokine synthesis.

JAK's are synthetic, not proteins delivered orally.

JAK inhibition ultimately prevents cytokine production

Approved for UC only  
No efficacy in CD

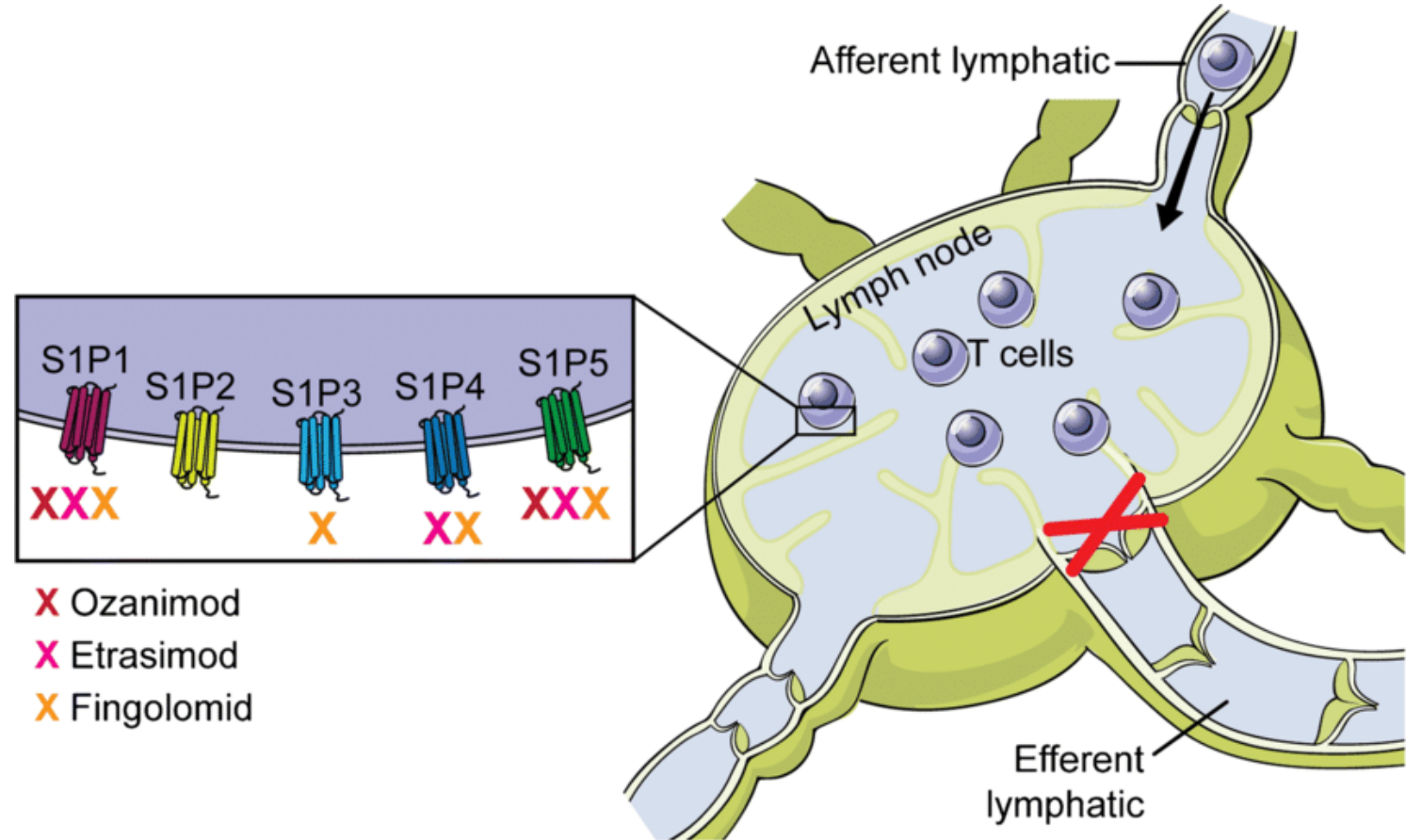


# Small Molecule : S1P Antagonist – Ozanimod, Etrasimod

S1P receptors help modulate which lymphocytes migrate to which organs for immune surveillance.

Ozanimod binds specific S1P receptor subtypes to predominantly prevent lymphocyte migration to the intestine.

Approved for UC only  
No efficacy in CD

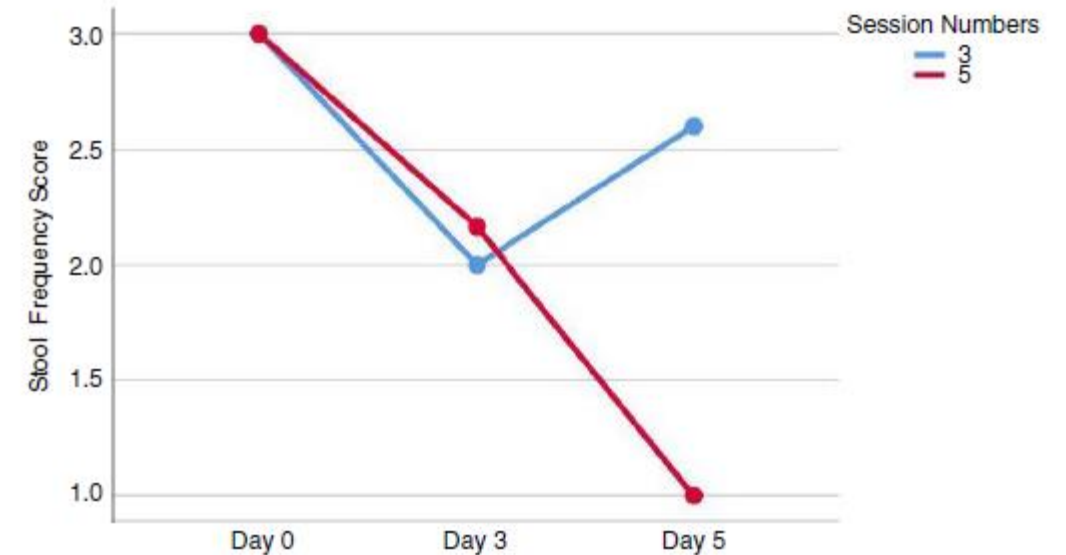
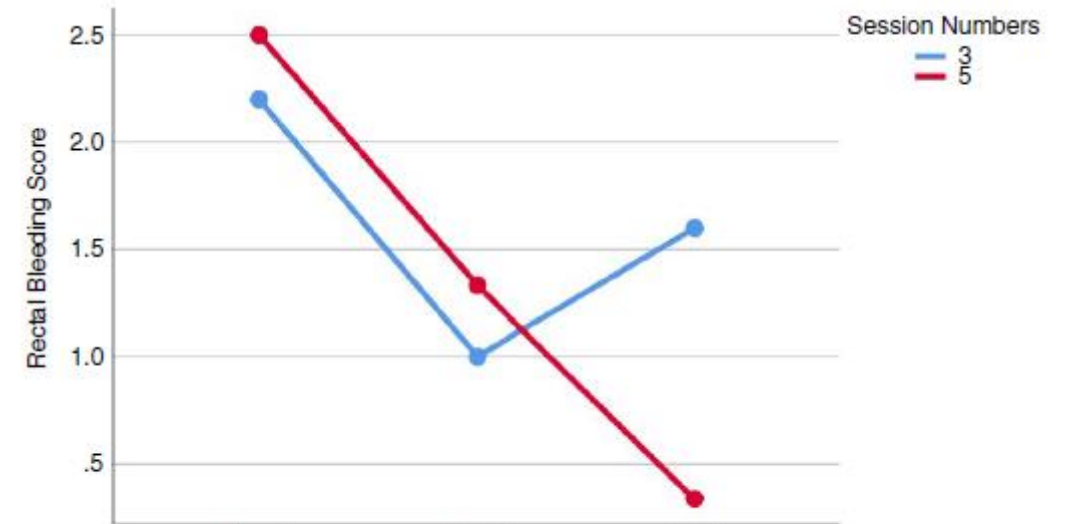




# Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy: UC

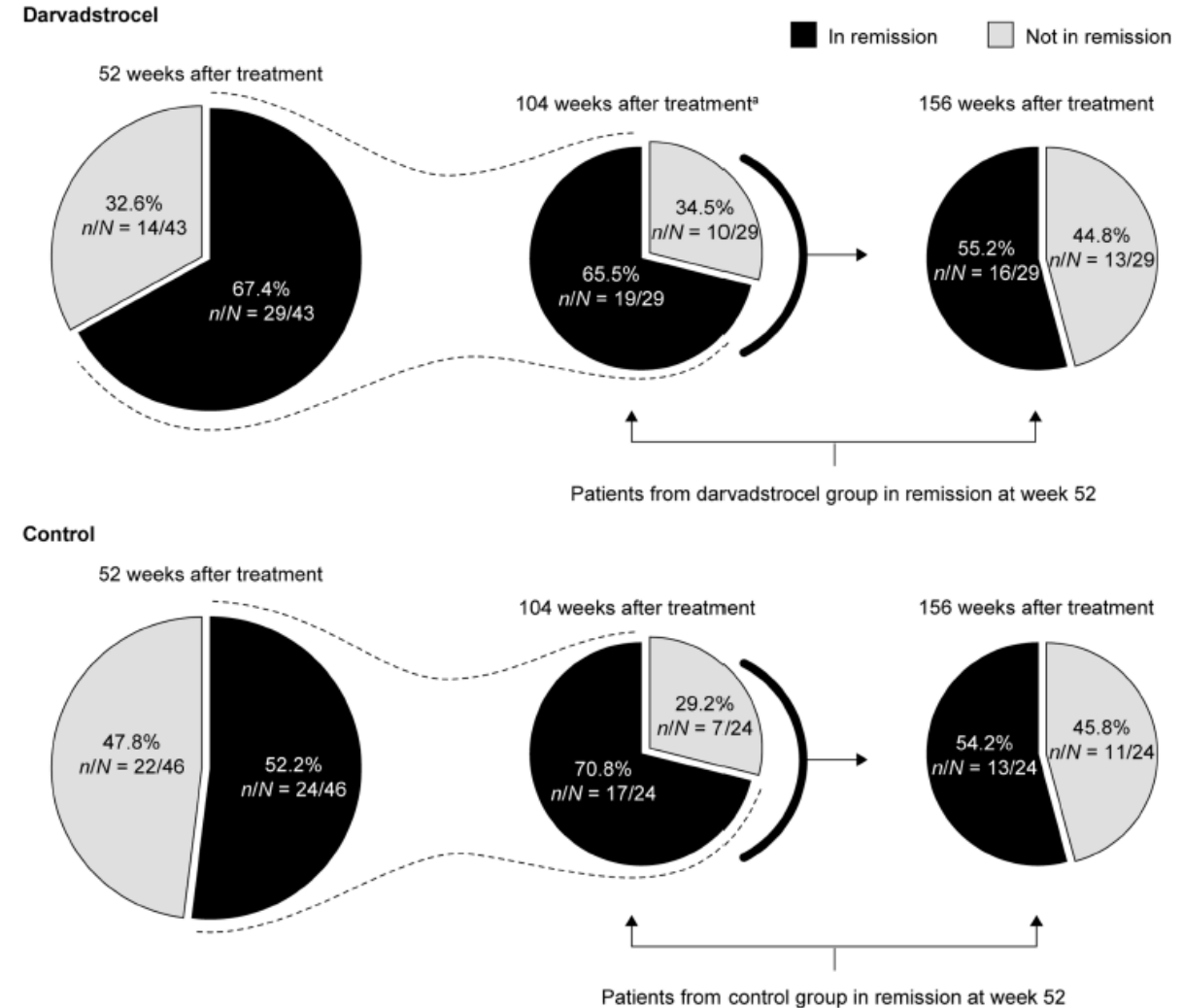
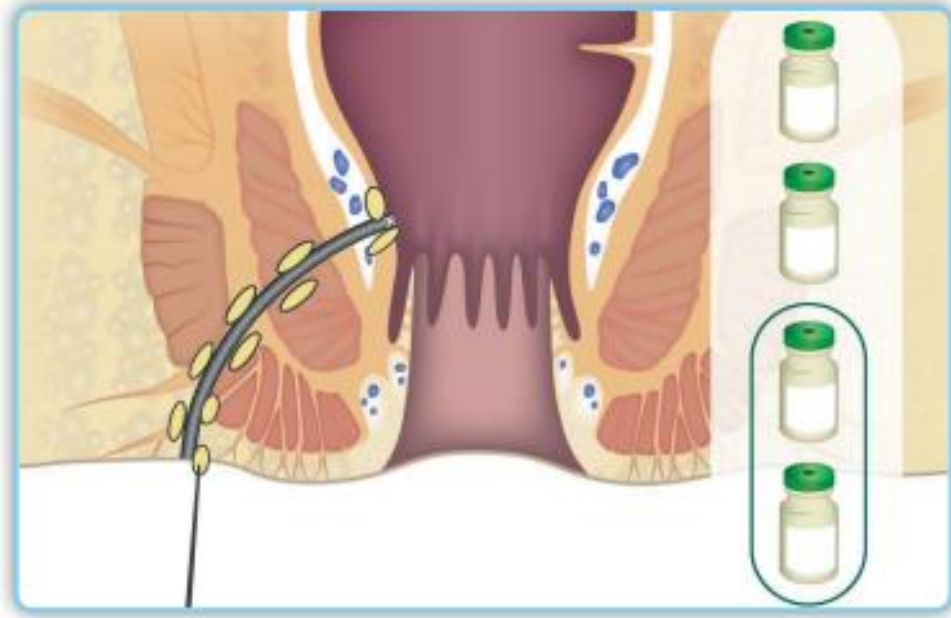
HBOT prevented a 2nd line biologic from being instituted in 85% of cases.

5 days superior to 3 days of HBOT



# Stem Cell Therapy : Perianal Fistulizing CD

Darvadstrocel = Expanded allogeneic adipose-derived mesenchymal stem cells



**FIGURE 4.** Sustained clinical remission in patients with Crohn's disease-related complex perianal fistulas treated with darvadstrocel vs control. <sup>a</sup>DVS group: of the 23 patients in clinical remission 104 weeks after treatment (Figure 3), 4 had not achieved remission by 52 weeks and are therefore not included in those reported to be in sustained remission at 104 weeks (n = 19). Control group: of the 20 patients in clinical remission 104 weeks after treatment (Figure 3), 3 had not achieved remission by 52 weeks and are therefore not included in those reported to be in sustained remission at 104 weeks (n = 17).

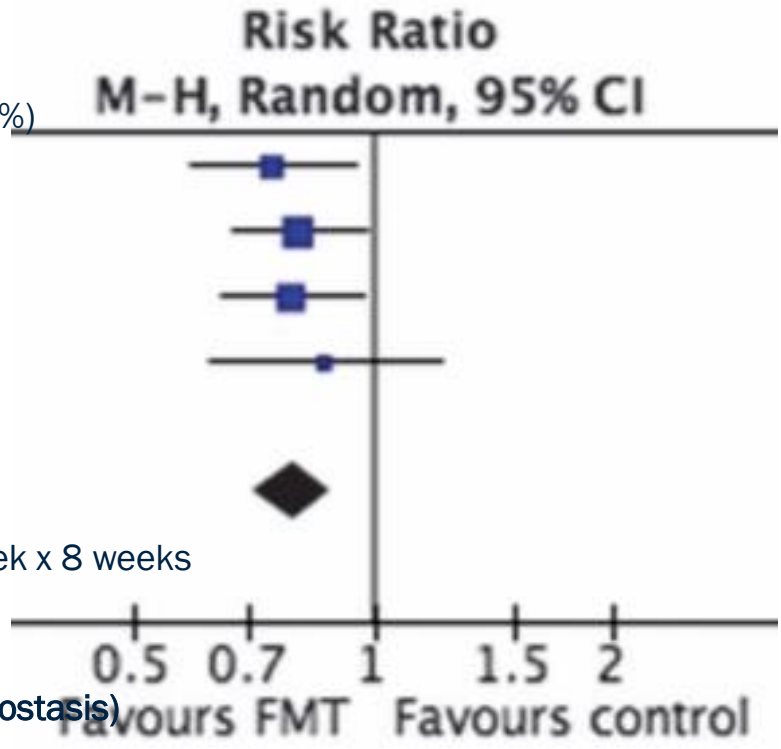
# IMT in Ulcerative Colitis

**2017**  
*Costello, et al*  
**Effect of FMT on 8 Week Remission in Mild-Mod UC**  
Multi-Center, Double-Blind, Autologous-Placebo Controlled, RCT  
Intervention: Colonoscopic FMT + Enema x 2 enema over 7 days  
Aneroboc pIMT superior ( 12 / 38; 32%) to Autologous pIMT (3 / 35; 9%)

**2015**  
*Moyaeddi, et al*  
**FMT Induces Remission in Active UC Patients**  
Single Center, Double-Blind, Placebo Controlled, RCT  
Intervention: Weekly IMT x 7 weeks  
dIMT superior ( 9 / 38; 24%) to pIMT (2 / 37; 5%)

**2016**  
*Paramsothy, et al*  
**Multidonor Intensive IMT for Active UC**  
Single Center, Double-Blind, Pooled Donor (3-4) vs Saline Placebo, RCT  
Intervention: Colonoscopic Pooled dIMT + Pooled dEnema IMT x 5d/week x 8 weeks  
Pooled dIMT superior ( 11 / 41; 27%) to pIMT (3 / 40; 3%)

**2015**  
*Rossen, et al*  
**TURN trial (Trans- plantation of Feces in Ulcerative Colitis; Returning Nature’s Homeostasis)**  
Single Center, Double-Blind, Single Donor vs Autologous-Placebo, RCT  
Trended but NO significant difference between dIMT vs aIMT



Note: Ser-287 encapsulated spore Phase 2b for UC did not meet primary endpoints



# Antibiotic Pre-Administration May Improve FMT Response in UC

## Prior Studies

UC vs Controls      Decreased diversity  
Decreased *Firmicutes*  
– *Clostridia* XIVa & IV  
Decreased *Bacteroidetes*

## AFM vs AFM + FMT

AFM = Amoxicillin + Fosfamycin + Metronidazole

Combo arm (AFM + FMT) associated w/greater recovery of *Bacteroidetes* and improved response

## Question

Is there a difference between self-recovered *Bacteroidetes* or FMT re-colonized *Bacteroidetes* ?

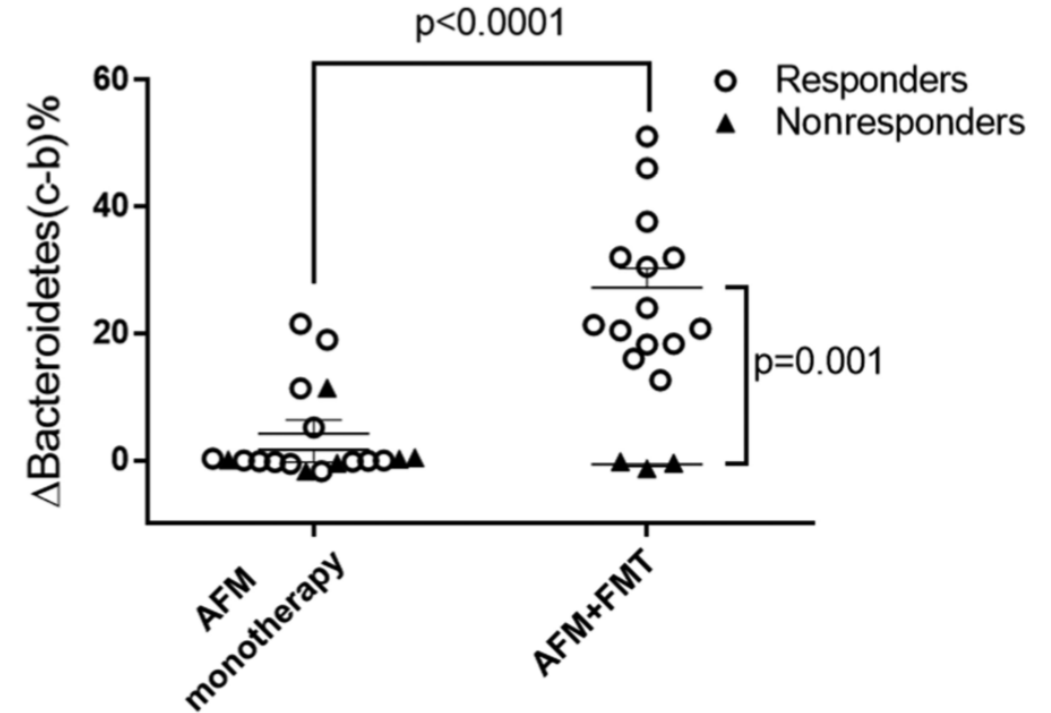


FIGURE 3. The relative abundance of *Bacteroidetes* following combination therapy with AFM and FMT at 4 weeks posttreatment was significantly higher ( $P < 0.0001$ ) than that in patients receiving AFM monotherapy ( $n = 17$  receiving combination therapy [AFM plus FMT];  $n = 19$  receiving AFM monotherapy). The proportion of *Bacteroidetes* increased significantly in the responders ( $n = 14$ ) compared with that in nonresponders ( $n = 3$ ) at 4 weeks post-FMT ( $P = 0.001$ ).

# *Key Summary Concepts*

IBD is a spectrum of immune mediated inflammatory attack of the intestine which may manifest as Crohn's disease, Ulcerative colitis, or Indeterminate colitis.

Increasing incidence/prevalence of disease observed w/more moderate-severe disease.

Early initiation of Steroid sparing therapy (biologics, small molecule) can prevent long-term complications, including cancer, that would otherwise require surgery.

Advances in therapy include new insights into the role of hyperbaric oxygen therapy and/or microbiota restorative therapy in UC and mesenchymal stem cell therapy in perianal fistulizing Crohn's.

Got Questions?

Please Reach Out & Ask :

[Neilanjan.Nandi@pennmedicine.upenn.edu](mailto:Neilanjan.Nandi@pennmedicine.upenn.edu)



**Friday 1:30pm – 2:30pm**

**CME: Current & Emerging Advanced  
Therapeutics in the IBD Landscape**

Please scan this QR code on you mobile  
or tablet device to access the session feedback survey



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