

Can Hidradenitis Suppurativa targeted antibiotic strategy improve Crohn's disease symptoms?

M Delage, T Lam, PH Consigny, Y Bouhnik, L Beaugerie, I Nion-Larmurier, P Seksik, O Lortholary, O Join-Lambert, A Nassif

Introduction: Crohn's Disease (CD) can be associated with Hidradenitis Suppurativa (HS) in approximately 2% cases. The pathophysiologies of these diseases have similarities, with involvement of inflammatory dysregulation, genetics and microbiome. The use of antibiotics (AB) in CD is limited, but established in perianal CD for example. While fearing an aggravation of diarrhea under AB prescribed for HS, we observed unexpected dramatic improvements in the number and consistency of stools and abdominal pain in several CD+HS patients. Therefore, we studied the impact of targeted AB prescribed for HS on CD symptoms in a small series of patients with associated CD + HS.

Methods: We retrospectively studied the evolution of CD symptoms and in particular the number of diarrheal stools / day in 11 consecutive patients before and after a targeted AB for HS, without any modification of their CD treatment for at least one year.

Results:

Sex	9 females / 2 males
Age (mean)	40
Tobacco	8/11
Hurley Stage	Inactive: 1 Hurley I: 2 Hurley II: 6 Hurley III: 2
Disease evolution (mean)	HS: 11 years CD: 15 years
Nb of previous immunosuppressive treatments (mean)	4

HS Treatments	Cotrimoxazole: 1 Ertapenem: 10
Effect on diarrhea	Improvement: 8/11 Stabilization: 1/11 Worsening: 2/11
Nb of stools (median)	Before TT: 6 After TT: 2

Discussion: There are similarities in CD and HS physiopathology, with the role of microbiome, immunity, fibrosis and tobacco. Unexpected and sometimes dramatic concomitant improvement of CD and HS with targeted AB questions a similar mechanism of action, possibly via manipulating commensal flora.

Conclusion: Targeted AB may improve CD symptoms in HS patients. These results need to be confirmed by a randomized trial with close attention to antibioresistance and CD symptoms.