

Special Issue

Imaging in Inflammatory Bowel Disease

Message from the Guest Editors

Inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD) are chronic-relapsing inflammatory conditions. Different imaging approaches have been developed for the evaluation of IBD. In UC, the gold standard for the diagnosis, assessment, and surveillance remains ileocolonoscopy with biopsies, by using high-definition (HD) instruments in particular. However, new techniques, such as dye and virtual chromoendoscopy, confocal laser endomicroscopy (CLE), endocytoscopy and trans-abdominal ultrasonography (US) are emerging as valid diagnostic and monitoring tools in the assessment of UC or detection of dysplastic lesions at surveillance. The small bowel assessment in CD includes mucosal evaluation using video capsule endoscopy and device-assisted enteroscopy, alongside cross-sectional imaging, such as intestinal US, abdominal computed tomography (CT) enterography and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) enterography. Moreover, upper gastrointestinal CD requires gastroscopy with biopsies, whilst the gold standard for the assessment of perianal CD is MRI of the pelvis. Trans-perineal and transrectal US, in absence of anal stenosis, are emerging imaging techniques in the evaluation of perianal CD.

Guest Editors

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