



## Crohn's Disease and Ulcerative Colitis: From Pathophysiology to Clinical Management

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### Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD), which are mainly represented by ulcerative colitis (UC) and Crohn's disease (CD), are both characterized by a condition of chronic and relapsing intestinal inflammation. An interaction between genetic and environmental factors has been recognized in the pathogenesis of IBD, even if these mechanisms have yet to be clearly elucidated. The signs and symptoms comprise abdominal pain, diarrhea, rectal bleeding, weight loss, fever, and fatigue, and the presence of extra-intestinal manifestations, such as osteoarticular and skin involvement, is frequent. Although the so-called biologic era modified the therapeutic strategies for IBD patients, the undesirable side effects, the loss of response, and the higher costs associated with biologics heavily impact on their use. Clinical management should deal with psychological distress, work disability, quality of life, and illness perceptions, and, the role of dedicated nursing staff is crucial for IBD patients' optimal care. We invite investigators to contribute both with original research articles and review articles that aim to explore the complex IBD scenario.





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