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IN BRIEF

ULCERATIVE COLITIS

Extended-release budesonide seems to be safe and effective for ulcerative colitis

Researchers have developed a new oral formulation of budesonide that has extended release into the colon. In a randomized study of 410 patients with active mild-to-moderate ulcerative colitis, extended-release budesonide (9 mg once daily) was more effective than placebo in inducing combined clinical and endoscopic remission (17.4% versus 4.5%; $P=0.0047$) over 8 weeks. The number of adverse events were similar in the two groups.

Original article Travis, S. P. L. *et al.* Once-daily budesonide MMX in active, mild-to-moderate ulcerative colitis: results from the randomised CORE II study. *Gut* doi:10.1136/gutjnl-2012-304258

IMAGING

Are advanced endoscopic imaging approaches useful for evaluating Barrett oesophagus?

Using autofluorescence imaging (AFI) either alone or in tandem with magnification narrow-band imaging had limited clinical accuracy in detecting high-grade dysplasia and early oesophageal adenocarcinoma in a prospective study of 42 patients with Barrett oesophagus. The two techniques had moderate interobserver agreement. Therefore, AFI does not seem to be useful for the detection of neoplastic lesions in patients with Barrett oesophagus.

Original article Giacchio, M. *et al.* Clinical utility and interobserver agreement of autofluorescence imaging and magnification narrow-band imaging for the evaluation of Barrett's esophagus: a prospective tandem study. *Gastrointest. Endosc.* doi:10.1016/j.gie.2013.01.029

HEPATOCELLULAR CARCINOMA

New ablative therapy gives promising results for recurrent hepatocellular carcinoma

High-intensity focused ultrasonography (HIFU)—a new thermal ablative therapy—is effective in the treatment of recurrent hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC), new findings have revealed. No differences in tumour size, disease-free survival rates or overall survival rates were observed between patients with recurrent HCC who underwent HIFU ($n=27$) and those who underwent radiofrequency ablation ($n=76$) during a median follow up of 27.9 months.

Original article Chan, A. C. Y. *et al.* Survival analysis of high-intensity focused ultrasound therapy versus radiofrequency ablation in the treatment of recurrent hepatocellular carcinoma. *Ann. Surg.* doi:10.1097/SLA.0b013e3182822c02

FAECAL INCONTINENCE

Collagen injection: a long-term treatment for faecal incontinence?

Findings from a retrospective study have demonstrated the long-term clinical effectiveness of collagen injection into the internal anal sphincter for the treatment of passive faecal incontinence. Of the 100 patients in the study, 56 patients had an improvement in faecal incontinence score and 68 patients reported a subjective improvement in symptoms over a minimum follow up of 36 months. Of note, ~50% of patients required a repeat injection of collagen, but no morbidity was reported, indicating that the procedure is safe.

Original article Maslekar, S. M. D. *et al.* Injectable collagen for the treatment of fecal incontinence: long-term results. *Dis. Colon Rectum* **56**, 354–359 (2013).