

DOP Session 2 – Epidemiology of IBD

DOP010

Incidence of inflammatory bowel diseases in the Faroe Islands from 1960-2014: a 54-year overview from a population-based cohort

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Background: Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) consists of Crohn's disease (CD), ulcerative colitis (UC) and IBD unclassified (IBDU). In 2010 and 2011, the European Crohn's & Colitis Organization's Epidemiological Committee study (ECCO-EpiCom) found the highest incidence rate in the world on the Faroe Islands of 83 per 100,000 person-years (1). In the present study we assessed the long-term time trends in IBD incidence in the Faroese population of approximately 49,000 inhabitants.

Methods: Data were retrieved from the national patient registry at the Medical Department at the National Hospital of the Faroe Islands and included all cases of CD, UC and IBDU from July 1960 to July 2014. Patients of all ages who were diagnosed with IBD in the Faroe Islands were included. Diagnoses were determined according to the Copenhagen Diagnostic Criteria.

Results: A total of 664 patients have been diagnosed with IBD in the last 54 years on the Faroe Islands, 114 with CD, 417 with UC

and 133 with IBDU. In 1960-79, a total of 55 persons were diagnosed; 105 in 1980-89; 166 in 1990-99; 179 in 2000-09, and 159 persons from 2010 until the end of July 2014. This represents an increase in the age-standardised IBD incidence rate (European Standard Population, ESP) from 8, 25, 41, 42, to 75 per 100,000 person-years. The age-standardised incidence rate (ESP) was also calculated for CD, UC and IBDU. For CD, the rate increased from 1 to 10, for UC from 5 to 43 and for IBDU from 2 to 21 per 100,000 person-years (figure 1).

Conclusions: The highest incidence of IBD in the world is found on the Faroe Islands. The increase in the IBD incidence over the last 54 years has been dramatic, from 8 in 1960-79 to 75 in 2010-14 per 100,000 person-years. Such a rapid change is most likely linked to not only increased diagnostic awareness but also to so far unidentified environmental factors.

[1]

References:

- [1] Burisch J, Pedersen N, Cukovic-Cavka S, et al. (2014), East-West gradient in the incidence of inflammatory bowel disease in Europe: the ECCO-EpiCom inception cohort. *Gut*, Apr;63(4):588-97.

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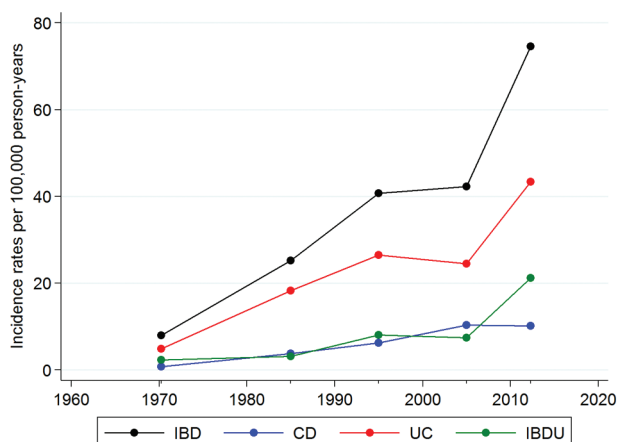
The ongoing rapid and significant rise of incident paediatric-onset inflammatory bowel disease in Scotland

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Background: The worldwide incidence of paediatric-onset inflammatory bowel disease (PIBD) is rising, with Scotland having the highest rate in the UK. Scottish PIBD data over the last 40 years has shown a consistent increase, including a 76% rise over 13 years around the millennium [1]. The aim of this study was to calculate current PIBD incidence rates in Scotland and to determine if the temporal trend of significant increase has been maintained.

Methods: Historical data from 2003-2008 (cohort 1) was compared to prospective, nationwide data of all incident cases diagnosed in paediatric services (under 16 years of age) from 2009-2013 (cohort 2). Age-sex adjusted incidence rates were calculated using population data from the General Registrar's Office for Scotland. Cases were classified as Crohn's disease (CD), ulcerative colitis (UC) or inflammatory bowel disease unclassified (IBDU) and diagnosed according to the Porto criteria. Statistical analysis was performed using Poisson regression.



"Figure 1 Incidence rates for IBD, CD, UC and IBDU for the periods 1.7.1960-31.12.1979, 1.1.1980-31.12.1989, 1.1.1990-31.12.1999, 1.1.2000-31.12.2009 and 1.1.2010-31.7.2014 in the Faroe Islands."