

O04 INCIDENCE AND PREVALENCE OF CHILDHOOD-ONSET INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE IN ONTARIO, CANADA: Results: FROM THE ONTARIO CROHN'S AND COLITIS COHORT (OCCC)

E. I. Benchimol*¹, A. Guttman², A. M. Griffiths¹, L. Rabeneck², D. R. Mack³, H. Brill⁴, J. Howard⁵, J. Guan², T. To²

¹*Gastroenterology, The Hospital for Sick Children*, ²*Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences, Toronto*, ³*CHEO, Ottawa*, ⁴*MCH, Hamilton*, ⁵*LHSC, London, Canada*

Background: Ontario health administrative data contain information on all health contacts for all legal residents of Canada's largest province. We identified children with IBD within Ontario using administrative data and tracked epidemiologic trends of paediatric IBD.

Methods: A validated diagnostic algorithm was used to identify children <18 years with IBD living in Ontario. The OCCC was used to describe trends in incidence and prevalence of IBD for fiscal years 1994-2005. We tested changes in incidence using Poisson regression stratified by age group.

Results: The OCCC comprises 3169 incident cases diagnosed between 1994 and 2005. Age- and sex-standardized prevalence of children with IBD has increased from 42. per 100, 000 population (95%CI 39. -44.) in 1994 to 56. per 100, 000 (95%CI 53. -59.) in 2005. The incidence of IBD has increased from 9. per 100, 000 (95%CI 8. -10.) in 1994 to 11. per 100, 000 (95%CI 10. -12.) in 2005. Significant increases in incidence were noted in 0-4 year olds (5%/yr, p=0. 3) and 5-9 year olds (7%/yr, p<0. 001), but not in 10-14 or 15-17 year olds. After stratifying by IBD type (CD/UC), only CD patients aged 5-9 exhibited significantly increased incidence (8% per year, p<0. 001).

Conclusion: We used the OCCC, the largest cohort of paediatric IBD in the world, to describe the epidemiology of children with IBD. This is the first study to describe a rapidly rising incidence of IBD in young children (<10 years old).