

Documented variation in inflammatory bowel disease care in Australasia – Crohn's Colitis Cure (CCC) Data Insights Program

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INTRODUCTION

- Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) is a global health issue with Australia and New Zealand having amongst the highest prevalence rates worldwide.

AIM

- To examine the quality, safety, and consistency of care amongst twelve Australasian centres over a 12-month period.

METHOD

- Crohn's Colitis Care (CCCare) is a cloud-based IBD-specific electronic medical record (EMR) used in Australasia.
- Deidentified data prospectively entered during routine clinical practice from April 2023 to April 2024 were retrospectively analysed.
- Only centres with over 100 people with IBD with an assessment during the last 14-month period were included.

RESULTS:

- A total of **6,277 eligible people** with IBD in ambulatory care from **12 centres** were included.
- Median age was **42 years** (IQR 31 – 56).
- Even gender distribution (50.1% male).
- Number of people with IBD in CCCare per centre ranged from 120 to 1,038 (median 527, IQR 248 – 687).
- 55.6% (n=3,488) had Crohn's Disease, 41.9% (n=2,629) Ulcerative Colitis, and 2.5% (n=160) IBD-Unclassified.

RESULTS – CONT.

- 52.6%** (n=3,304) were receiving an advanced therapy (biologics or novel small molecules) with centre variation from **34.1% to 70.2%**.
- Of those on advanced therapy, 33% were on dose escalated therapy, with centre variation from **17.1% to 64.2%**.
- Current steroid use ranged from **0.5% to 17.6%**.
- Overall smoking rate across the cohort was **10.8%**, the median smoking rate was 8.4%, which varied across sites (IQR 6.9 – 12.8).
- Nine centres documented Influenza vaccination rates which varied from **0.7% to 52.1%**.
- Covid vaccination documented at 11 centres varied from **0.2% to 86.9%** (median 17.7%, IQR 5.8 – 49.4).
- 2,044** faecal calprotectin results were documented with an overall FCP remission rate (<250 mg/g) of **74.9%**.
- 1,624** lower endoscopies were performed across 11 sites with remission rate 55.6%, centre **variation 6.7% to 100%**.
- 616** radiological investigations performed across 10 sites with remission rate varying between **19.2% and 55.6%**.

CONCLUSIONS

- Significant variation in care documentation and outcomes remains for people with IBD in Australasia. Without tools to enable benchmarking, consistent care outcomes cannot be reliably delivered.
- CCCare supports scalable, continuous reporting of these measures, and is ideally placed to develop into a national Clinical Quality Registry (CQR) to improve these deficiencies and reduce unwarranted care variation.

