

EEN treatment.¹ We explored dietary triggers of CD relapse by performing dietary assessment and measuring faecal food biomarkers in children with CD during early food reintroduction.

Methods Combination of clinical remission post EEN (weighted Paediatric Crohn's Disease Activity Index <12.5) and a significant drop in FC (>500 mg/kg/>35%), was used to define the patient group. All patients provided 3-day estimated weight food diaries and a faecal sample. Patients were divided equally for statistical analysis purposes in two groups; above (Group 1) and below (Group 2) the median FC concentration at food reintroduction [900 mg/kg (341, 1,243)]. Nutrient and food group analysis was performed with WinDiet 10. Faecal short chain fatty acids, gluten immunogenic peptide and starch were measured as proxy of fibre, gluten and malabsorbed/resistant starch.

Results 14 children provided a FC sample within 21 (15, 51) days post EEN. Classification of patients in the two groups resulted in significantly different FC values: Group 1: 1181 mg/kg (1024, 1781) vs Group 2: 411 mg/kg (130, 651) ($p<0.01$). Total energy intake did not differ between the two groups ($p=0.37$). Patients in Group 1 consumed more fibre, protein and phosphorus than Group 2 ($p=0.04$, $p=0.02$, $p=0.04$). Butyrate and valerate levels were higher in Group 1 than Group 2 ($p=0.02$, $p<0.01$), whereas no differences were observed in GIP and faecal starch levels. Patients in Group 1 reported higher red & processed meat consumption ($p=0.02$). **Conclusions** This analysis highlights dietary components potentially associated with recurrence of colonic inflammation in children with CD during early food reintroduction. These findings should be confirmed in larger studies.

REFERENCE

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LONGITUDINAL ANALYSIS OF THE METABOLOME IN EARLY LIFE IN PRETERM BABIES

¹Alessandra Frau, ¹Lauren Lett, ²Janet Berrington, ¹Rachael Slater, ¹David Hughes, ²Nicholas Embleton, ¹Chris Probert*. ¹University Of Liverpool, Liverpool, UK; ²Newcastle Hospitals NHS Trust, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK

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Background Information on the metabolome in early life is still limited. Here, we describe the evolution of the metabolome in preterm babies during their first weeks of life.

Methods Multiple stool samples from 69 preterm babies were collected across 7 hospitals in the UK. Volatile organic compounds (VOCs) were analysed by running an aliquot of stool (mean=80.6 mg, SD=12.3 mg) gas chromatography/mass spectrometry. Data were interpreted using AMDIS with NIST reference library. Statistical analysis to identify factors that influenced the metabolome included clustering, PERMANOVA and linear mixed-effects modeling were carried out in R.

Results Several factors influenced the metabolomic results; the most relevant, was as expected, the individual, followed by the hospital, the babies age in days, and the gestational age. As samples were run in two different batches, a batch effect was observed. The age of the baby influenced both the number of VOCs and the VOC profile. Number of VOCs increased over time; a sharp rise was observed after day 5 and it was stabilised after day 10. In terms of VOCs observed, a shift was observed after day 5, with the observation of

VOCs produced during, or by-products of carbohydrate, fermentation (i.e. butane-2,3-dione, propyl acetate, propan-1-ol and propyl propanoate). Meanwhile, branched short chain fatty acid (BSCFA), produced by bacteria in the colon during branched amino acids fermentation, were observed before 5 days of life. This was also the case for butanoic acid.

Conclusion This study shows for the first time how the metabolome changes in early life in preterm babies. A shift in the metabolome was observed after 5 days of life when the babies started to be fed and interestingly this becomes stable relatively soon (during the second week). This is likely to be related to the shift from meconium to stool. The observation of BSCFA during the first week suggests these come from the degradation of protein-rich amniotic fluid, meanwhile of acids, alcohols and esters only appears after babies were fed with milk.

Colon and anorectum

051

CAN FIT RULE OUT COLORECTAL CANCER IN SYMPTOMATIC PATIENTS? RESULTS FROM THE NICE FIT STUDY

^{1,2}Nigel D'Souza, ^{1,3}Theo Georgiou Delisle*, ⁴Sally Benton, ⁵Michelle Chen, ¹Muti Abulafi. ¹Croydon University Hospital; ²Basingstoke Hospital; ³Imperial College London; ⁴Royal Surrey County Hospital; ⁵Royal Marsden Partners

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Introduction The faecal immunochemical test (FIT) is a non-invasive quantitative test which measures occult blood in faeces (faecal haemoglobin, Fhb). FIT was introduced by NICE in 2017 to triage referral of patients with low risk symptoms (DG30). We report on the largest prospective and ethically approved diagnostic accuracy study to date of FIT in patients with high and low risk symptoms for colorectal cancer (CRC), meeting NICE NG12 and DG30 criteria.

Methods This multicenter study was powered to establish the diagnostic accuracy of FIT for CRC. Patients were eligible for recruitment if they experienced bowel symptoms meeting NICE two-week (TW) referral criteria and had been triaged to investigation with colonoscopy. All eligible patients referred for colonoscopy on TW pathway were asked to complete a FIT test kit (HM-JACK) prior to their colonoscopy. Patients were excluded from analysis if they did not provide a valid FIT or did not undergo complete colonoscopy. Patients were classified as high or low risk as per NICE NG12 or DG30 criteria respectively. Colonoscopy results were compared to FIT measurements of Fhb and the conduct of the tests was double-blinded. Quality assurance of endoscopy and clinical data was performed by senior clinicians and external statisticians analysed anonymised data. This trial is registered on isrctn.com, ISRCTN49676259.

Results 9822 patients from 50 sites across England participated in the study between October 2017 to March 2019, 329 cancers were detected (3.3% prevalence). Preliminary results for combined DG30 and NG12 groups show the sensitivity of FIT at Fhb thresholds of 2, 10 and 150 µg/g was 97.0%, 90.9% and 70.8% respectively. The positive predictive value (PPV) of FIT in combined groups for CRC at thresholds of 2, 10 and 150 µg/g was 8.7%, 16.1% and 31.1% respectively and the negative predictive value (NPV) of FIT at these thresholds was 99.8%, 99.6% and 98.9% respectively. 6900