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OBESITY IS MORE COMMON IN CHILDREN NEWLY DIAGNOSED WITH ULCERATIVE COLITIS AS COMPARED TO THOSE WITH CROHN'S DISEASE

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Background:

Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) is a chronic inflammatory condition of the gastrointestinal tract which comprises of Crohn's disease (CD) and ulcerative colitis (UC). Data on the link of obesity and IBD in children are lacking.

Objective:

This study aims to determine if overweight/obese children with IBD do worse compared normal/underweight patients with IBD.

Methods:

A cohort study of children (<17 years of age) enrolled in the Manitoba longitudinal pediatric inflammatory bowel disease (MALPID) registry between January 2012 and August 2018. The primary outcome was to determine if obese/overweight patients with IBD at diagnosis would relapse sooner than their normal/underweight counterparts. Statistical analysis was performed on STATA and included descriptive statistics and survival analysis using Cox proportional hazard regression model.

Results:

A total of 131 patients were included; 75 (57%) patients with UC and 56 (47%) patients with CD. In the UC group, there were 10 (13%) obese and 7 (9%) overweight patients. In the CD group, there were 5 (9%) overweight and no obese patients (p=0.037). Adjusted hazard ratio (aHR) was 2.02 (0.94-4.36) for time to the first relapse in UC patients who were overweight/obese compared to the normal/underweight patients. For CD patients the aHR was 58.22 (3.95-858.01).

Conclusion:

Obesity is more common in children newly diagnosed with UC compared to CD. There was no significant difference in outcomes between obese/overweight patients newly diagnosed with IBD compared to normal/underweight patients.