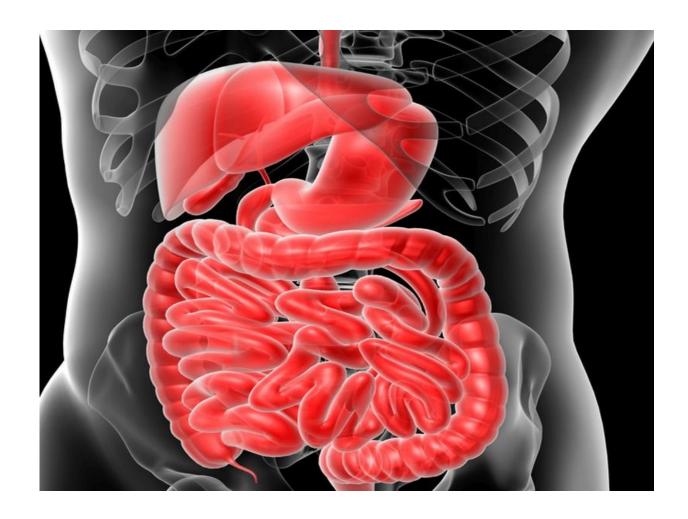


Azathioprine appears to improve disease course in early Crohn's

October 2 2017



(HealthDay)—Long-term use of azathioprine (AZA) is associated with a



better disease course in patients with early Crohn's disease (CD), according to a study published online Sept. 22 in the *Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology*.

Yun Qiu, from Sun Yat-sen University in China, and colleagues evaluated the impact of AZA on <u>disease</u> progression in a cohort of 190 <u>patients</u> with early CD (disease duration ≤18 months) and no previous use of disease-modifying agents.

The researchers found that over a median follow-up of 57 months, 31 patients underwent abdominal surgeries, 48 patients were hospitalized, and 68 patients experienced clinical flares. The cumulative rate of remaining free of CD-related bowel surgery, hospitalization, and flares after five years on AZA treatment was 0.65, 0.59, and 0.39, respectively. Prior bowel resection (hazard ratio [HR], 9.23; smoking (HR, 4), and hemoglobin 36 months (HR, 0.04) was associated with reduced CD-related operations.

"Prolonged use of AZA was associated with a more favorable disease course of early CD, evident as a lower risk of CD-related surgery," conclude the authors.

Several authors disclosed financial ties to the pharmaceutical industry.

More information: Abstract

Full Text (subscription or payment may be required)

Copyright © 2017 HealthDay. All rights reserved.

Citation: Azathioprine appears to improve disease course in early Crohn's (2017, October 2) retrieved 3 May 2024 from

https://medicalxpress.com/news/2017-10-azathioprine-disease-early-crohn.html



This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.