

Use of health services up for adults with inflammatory bowel disease

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(HealthDay)—Adults with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) have

increased use of health services compared with those without IBD, according to a study published online Feb. 24 in the *National Health Statistics Reports*, a publication from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Emily P. Terlizzi, M.P.H., from the National Center for Health Statistics in Hyattsville, Maryland, and colleagues measured [health care utilization](#) among adults with IBD compared with those without IBD. A total of 66,610 adults from the 2015 and 2016 National Health Interview Survey were included; 1.2 percent had IBD.

The researchers found that adults with IBD were more likely than those without IBD to have visited any doctor or mental health provider in the previous 12 months. In addition, IBD was associated with an increased prevalence of being prescribed medication and having received acute care services, including [emergency room visits](#), overnight hospitalizations, or surgeries. The greatest differences by IBD status were seen for visiting a specialist and home visits in the previous 12 months (adjusted prevalence ratios, 1.98 and 1.80, respectively).

"These estimates of higher health care services use among adults with IBD, compared with those without IBD, provide a reference of the burden experienced by these patients and the impact on the U.S. health care system, and can inform physicians and health care policy makers aiming to improve IBD care by increasing important preventive care utilization and minimizing potentially avoidable health services," the authors write.

More information: [Abstract/Full Text](#)

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