

A New Population With Inflammatory Bowel Disease: Clinical Characteristics of IBD in the Chaldean Population



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INTRODUCTION

- The Chaldean people originate from ancient Babylon, Mesopotamia, known as Iraq in modern times
- Population
 - Approximately 2 million people total
 - 500,000 people in the US
- Anecdotally observed that many Chaldeans suffer from inflammatory bowel disease (IBD)
- Cho et. Al described four Chaldean families with linkage and linkage disequilibrium at chromosome band 1p36 associated with IBD
- There are no studies describing clinical characteristics in this population
- Aim: To describe the clinical characteristics of IBD in the Chaldean population

METHODS

- Online Survey Study
- Distributed to Chaldean population via social media
- Data Collected:
 - Demographic Information
 - IBD Specific Characteristics
 - Family History
 - Delays to Seeking Care
- Exclusion Criteria
 - Did not identify as Chaldean
 - People <18 years old (y)
 - Did not have a diagnosis of IBD

RESULTS

Figure 1. Patient Population Flowchart

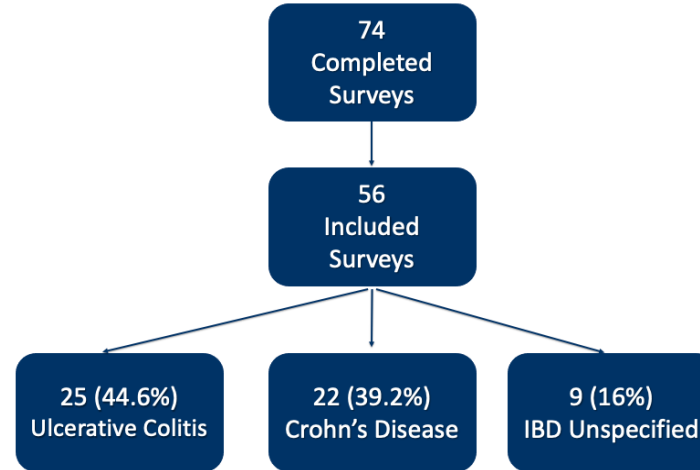


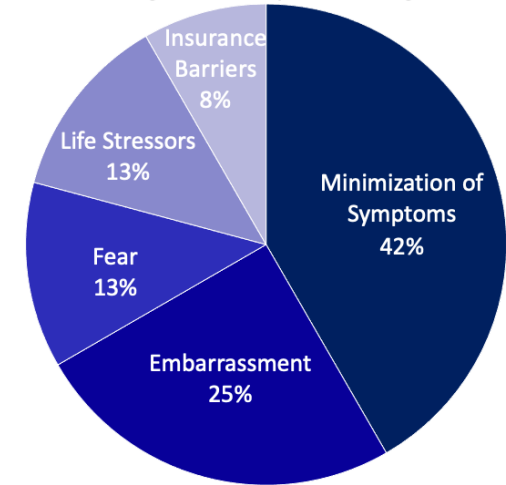
Table 1. Demographic and Clinical Characteristics of Chaldean Patients with IBD

Variables	N=56
Median age, y (Range)	31 (19-55)
Median age of diagnosis, y (Range)	25 (5-52)
Median duration of disease, y (Range)	9 (1-28)
Females, n (%)	42 (75)
Surgery due to IBD, n (%)	12 (21)
First Degree Relative with IBD, n (%)	20 (35)
Second Degree Relative with IBD, n (%)	30 (53)
Delays to Seeking Care ¹ , n (%)	37 (66)

¹= 24 participants provided reasons for delays to seeking care

RESULTS

Figure 2. Delays to Seeking Care



CONCLUSIONS

- First study to describe the clinical characteristics of IBD in the Chaldean population
- Similar rates of Ulcerative Colitis and Crohn's Disease in the Chaldean population
- Chaldean IBD patients are more likely to be female, compared to equal rates of IBD between males and females in the general population
- Higher rates of family history of IBD in Chaldean patients compared to the general IBD population, which is reported at 8-14%
- Despite a strong family history, thus presumed exposure to IBD, most patients delay seeking medical attention for their symptoms
- Further studies are indicated to describe IBD characteristics, clinical course, prognosis and genetic evaluation in the Chaldean population