Inflammatory Bowel Disease & Specialty Pharmacy Services Role

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Outline

- Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) overview
  - IBD treatment goals
  - IBD treatment options
  - Treatment monitoring parameters
- Describe the clinical pharmacist’s role in IBD therapy management
- Describe the specialty pharmacy service role in IBD therapy management
Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD)

- IBD is a term that describes a group of chronic conditions that causes inflammation/ulceration in the GI tract.

- Ulcerative Colitis (UC)
- Crohn's Disease (CD)
- Indeterminate Colitis

Etiology unclear

- Infectious triggers
- Genetics
- Environmental triggers
- Immune defects
- Other possible causes/triggers
  - Drugs, Diet, Stress, Depression, Hormonal Influence

Inflammatory Bowel Disease

**UC**
- Limited to colon and/or rectum
- Superficial mucosal inflammation
- Inflammation pattern is continuous
- Nontransmural & crypt abscesses

**CD**
- Occurs anywhere in the GI tract, potentially from mouth to anus
- Transmural mucosal inflammation
- Inflammation pattern is patchy with cobblestone appearance
- Transmural lesions & granulomas

Signs and Symptoms of IBD

- Symptoms range from mild to severe. They can be mild during remission and/or severe during relapse

- **Common symptoms** associated with UC & CD
  - Malaise/Fatigue
  - Fever
  - Rectal bleeding (UC: Bloody Diarrhea)
  - Abdominal pain
IBD Treatment Goals

- Induce remission for acute flares
- Prevent and/or resolve complications
  - Fissures, fistulas, abscess formation, colon CA
- Prevent and/or resolve systemic manifestations
  - Hepatobiliary complications, arthritis, uveitis, skin lesions
- Maintain remission
- Improve quality of life

IBD Optimal Drug Therapies

- **Drug factors to consider**
  - Choose a drug based on severity of the disease
  - Location of the disease
  - Administration route
  - Side effect profile
  - Gage the patient with medication selection
  - Adherence
  - Effectiveness and Safe
  - Cost
Clinical Pharmacist Responsibilities

- Medication reconciliation
- Coordination of care for self-injectable and infused medications
- Monitoring and follow-up of lab tests
- Medication education
- Initiation/Titration of medication
- Recommendations to MDs
- Staff education
- Refill authorization
- Vaccination
- Prior authorization
- Initiate appeals for denied medications
- Referral to patient assistance programs or social work
- Assistance in obtaining limited access medications
Specialty Pharmacy Services Initiatives for IBD

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<tr>
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Education and Training

- Schedule training and education session
- Provide first dose if applicable
- Document details in EMR
  - Start of therapy
- Ongoing drug therapy
  - Safety monitoring
  - Effectiveness
  - Medication review
  - Clinical outcomes
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Clinical Surveys

- Designed by specialty pharmacy team and clinical pharmacists at UI Health

- Purpose of the survey: (conducted monthly)
  - Monitor adherence, identify reasons for non-adherence
  - Identify adverse events
  - Document ongoing issues and address them every month
  - Medication reconciliation
  - Assess patient perception of treatment efficacy
  - Vaccination compliance
  - Pregnancy assessment
  - Reports & outcome data
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Cold Chain Shipping

- Most Anti-TNFs require refrigeration during shipping
- Important to establish protocols regarding temperature stability:
  - Shipping policy is needed
  - If the medication freezes, the physical and immunological properties are changed and potency can be lost
  - Expensive medications
  - Cold shipping studies have been initiated
Contact Information

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