ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

Patients with Crohn’s disease (CD) frequently experience bowel urgency, a symptom resulting in rushing to the bathroom and sometimes causing loss of bowel control. The symptom of bowel urgency dramatically impacts patient quality of life (QoL), and can lead to depression, social isolation, disruption with work, interference with relationships and sexual intimacy, sleep disruptions, and fatigue. Bowel urgency is more commonly associated with ulcerative colitis, leading many gastroenterologists to forget to assess for this symptom in patients with CD or to only assess for it in patients with disease in the colon region. However, over 70% of patients with CD experience bowel urgency and it is reported as a common and disruptive symptom alongside pain and fatigue.

In this CME Outfitters live symposium, expert faculty will discuss recognizing the frequency of bowel urgency in patients with CD and the impact to patient QoL, incorporating assessments for bowel urgency as part of thorough symptom evaluation for patients with CD, and engaging patients in open communication about their bowel urgency as part of shared decision-making in order to improve clinical outcomes.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the conclusion of this activity, learners will be able to better:

- Recognize the frequency of bowel urgency in patients with CD and the impact to patient QoL
- Incorporate assessments for bowel urgency as part of thorough symptom evaluation for patients with CD
- Engage patients in open communication about their bowel urgency as part of shared decision-making in order to improve clinical outcomes

FACULTY

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