(TDM) is a strategy to help achieve this, through the measurement of drug and anti-drug antibody concentrations. The Building Research in IBD Globally (BRIDGe) groups ‘Anti-TNF Optimizer’, an online tool that helps interpretation of TDM and clinical decision-making.

Methods We performed a retrospective study of IBD patients on infliximab (IFX) or adalimumab (ADA) at our institution, undergoing TDM between Jan 16-Mar 17. TDM was performed using a drug-tolerant ELISA (IDKmonitor, Immundiagnostik). Disease activity was defined by the combination of clinical symptoms and evidence of biochemical (CRP >10; FCP >150), endoscopic or radiological activity. Clinical decision-making was compared to recommendations made by the BRIDGe ‘Anti-TNF Optimizer’ tool, which suggests that objective evidence should be sought in all cases of suspected primary non-response (PNR) and loss of response (LOR). Subsequent disease course was evaluated using a Physicians Global Assessment (PGA), which took into account clinical, biochemical, endoscopic and/or radiological activity and the need to progress to surgery. Outcomes were described as ‘favourable’ or ‘unfavourable’. Groups were compared using Fisher’s exact test (GraphPad Prism V7.0a).

Results 60 patients were included: 30 IFX and 30 ADA. Indications for TDM: LOR 45 (75%), PNR 8 (13%), routine monitoring during remission 7 (12%). Objective evidence of inflammation was sought in all 53 cases of LOR/PNR and found present in 42 (79%). Two patients were lost to follow up and were not included in the final analysis. Of these 40, subsequent clinical management was in keeping with BRIDGe recommendations in 19 (48%).

Of the 19 LOR/PNR patients managed as per BRIDGe recommendations, 15 (79%) achieved a subsequent favourable outcome. The rate of subsequent favourable outcome in the group who were not managed in accordance with BRIDGe was significantly lower at 3/21 (14%, p<0.0001).

Conclusions The rate at which objective evidence of inflammation was sought amongst our patients with symptoms suggestive of PNR/LOR was good. However, clinical decision-making deviated from BRIDGe recommendations in majority of cases and this appeared to adversely impact disease course. Results therefore, suggest that using an evidence-based, expert consensus, online tool to guide biologic decision-making with the results of biologic TDM provides benefit in IBD outcomes.

Introduction Colonoscopic surveillance is indicated for the detection of premalignant damage associated mucosal lesion (DALMs) and colorectal cancer (CRC) in patients with chronic inflammatory colitis of greater than 10 years duration. We reviewed all cases of DALM and CRC detection in our IBD cohort over a 4 year period and compared against current BSG guidance for high risk groups (2010).

Methods The pathology reporting system of Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust was interrogated for SNOMED 11a codes for IBD and dysplasia or CRC (D6214, D6216, D6255 and M7400) between 1/9/12 – 1/1/17. The case notes of these patients were reviewed and those with adenoma related dysplasia excluded. The indication for the detecting procedure was recorded.

Surveillance practice during this time was measured by recording all colonoscopies performed for the indication of IBD (colitis, Crohns disease, colitis – ulcerative or IBD assessment) over a 9 year period (1/9/07 – 1/1/17) from the endoscopy reporting system (Scorpio, Emis Health, UK) of Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust. The surveillance interval of each individual patient was calculated. A subgroup of 20 patients within this cohort were sampled for case notes review to identify the reasons for inappropriate surveillance.

Results Dysplasia and IBD was detected in 59 individuals, 42 were adenomas and excluded, leaving 7 DALMs detected. Three (42%) were recognised as DALMs under white light endoscopy, three (42%) were
TRAVELLING WITH INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE (IBD): BARRIERS, FEARS, CONCERNS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR SUPPORT

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Introduction IBD can act as a barrier to overseas travel due to concerns about travel related morbidity. This study aims to identify barriers, fears and concerns of IBD patients with regards to travel and possible areas of support from the IBD team.

Method 136 IBD patients were selected using convenience sampling. They completed a questionnaire focused on travel with IBD and specific travel issues (decision to travel, insurance, pre-trip advice, vaccination, previous flares while abroad, high altitude travel, assistance while overseas).

Results 136 patients completed the questionnaire, 70 were male (51.4%), 73 had Crohn’s Disease, 53 had Ulcerative Colitis (UC), 3 had Indeterminate Colitis and 7 were unsure. 56.6% of patients were taking 5-ASAs, 52.9% were on immunosuppressant therapy and 20.6% receiving biologics. 89% had travelled abroad since their IBD was diagnosed, 30% reported IBD limited their travel and 40% said it affected their choice of destination. 61% worried about healthcare problems abroad. 7% were refused health insurance and 47% had travelled abroad uninsured. 9% travelled uninsured due to their diagnosis of IBD. Only 64% felt that they had received adequate pre-travel medical advice. 78% wanted advice from their doctor for future travel. 60% were unaware that taking immunosuppressant medication could affect their vaccinations and 63% on immunosuppressant therapy of biologicals claimed they were uninformed of the need to avoid live vaccines. 12% received live vaccines prior to travel. Suggestions for travel help: 91% requested a written/electronic prescription for their journey, 75% wanted specific management advice, 68% a written management plan. 68% felt a doctor’s note could help them secure health insurance. 38% of patients who travelled abroad were suffering/recovering from a flare and 18% travelled despite being within a week of a flare. 92% were unaware that high altitudes could precipitate a flare. 27% travelled to high altitude destinations and of these 46% experienced a flare whilst travelling or within 4 weeks of travel. 72% were unaware of the ‘Can’t Wait Card’ and 96% never heard about the IBD passport website.

Conclusions IBD has a big impact on travel for a broad range of reasons. Refusal of health insurance, coupled with higher premiums could explain why many IBD patients travel abroad uninsured. Providing a doctor’s note confirming fitness to travel was a popular solution chosen by patients. A majority were interested in doctors providing written management plans and prescriptions prior to their travel. Despite over half of the study being on immunosuppressant therapy, most were unaware of avoiding live vaccines whilst taking them. Better advice from health care professionals makes this entirely avoidable. Most IBD patients were unaware that high altitudes may precipitate flares. A large majority were unaware of the ‘Can’t Wait Card’ and IBD passport services. Pre-emptive discussions around travel plans should be part of the IBD clinic review.

Baseline Calprotectin predicts steroid free remission with biological therapy in ulcerative colitis at 1 year

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Background Response to the anti-tumour necrosis factor (TNF) agents and the anti-integrin-α4β7 antibody, vedolizumab, in ulcerative colitis (UC) is variable. There are few clinical predictors of long term efficacy to biological therapy apart from prior exposure to anti-TNF therapy. Identification of readily available clinical and biochemical predictors will enable better utilization of these expensive drugs. We sought to evaluate the role of clinical factors and faecal calprotectin prior to initiation of therapy in predicting steroid free remission at 1 year.

Methods The case records of all patients who commenced biological therapy for UC were examined. Baseline clinical factors including disease extent, duration, smoking status, body mass index, concurrent immunomodulatory or steroid therapy and biochemical factors including C-reactive protein and faecal calprotectin were recorded. Patients with acute severe colitis were excluded. Remission was defined as simple clinical colitis index, concurrent immunomodulatory or steroid therapy and biochemical factors including C-reactive protein and faecal calprotectin were recorded. Patients with acute severe colitis were excluded. Remission was defined as simple clinical colitis activity index of <3. A multi-variant logistic regression was performed to assess the role of baseline variables in predicting steroid free remission at 1 year.

Results A total of 150 patients commenced biological therapy during the study period (2014–2017). Eighteen patients (12%) were excluded from the final analysis (Adverse reactions, N=5, 3.3%, Surgery, N=6, 8%, and data unavailable, N=7, 4.6%). After exclusion, a total of 98 patients commenced anti-TNF therapy (37 infliximab, 14 golimumab and 34 vedolizumab). Twenty-three (23.5%) of the anti-TNF treated and 16 (47%) of vedolizumab treated patients were in steroid free remission at 12 months. Forty-seven patients had extensive colitis and 4 patients were active smokers. A baseline calprotectin of >500 µg/g was associated with a lower probability of remission to vedolizumab (OR 0.23, 95% CI 0.05 to 0.98, P<0.047) and anti-TNF therapy (OR 0.39, 95% CI 0.14 to 1.07, P=0.067) at 12 months. None of the other clinical variables examined (BMI, disease...