Narrow Band Imaging in Crohn’s Ileitis

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Clinical Image

Narrow Band Imaging (NBI) is a novel endoscopic imaging technique that enables characterisation of subtle mucosal changes. The technology consists of placing narrowband pass filters in front of a conventional white-light source to obtain tissue illumination at selected narrow wavelength bands. The bandwidths of the blue (415 nm) and green filters (540 nm) are used in NBI. This light is maximally absorbed by haemoglobin, enhancing the visualization of capillary microvasculature and giving it a dark appearance [1]. NBI in the gastrointestinal tract have focused on the esophagus and colon especially for the evaluation of Barrett’s esophagus colorectal polyps and duodenum [2-4]. Ileum mucosal changes can be equally well appreciated by NBI with capillary network in payer’s patches (Figure 1). In crohn’s disease ileal mucosal modularity and longitudinal ulceration is well visualized by magnification NBI (1.5 x) (Figure 2). So targeted ileal biopsy for histopathological examination is very effective.

Reference

