

OVERVIEW OF INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASES PATHOMECHANISM

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Abstract. Inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD) including ulcerative colitis (UC) and Crohn's disease (CD) are two genetically related, chronic inflammatory disorders. The main differences between these two phenotype variants consist in the fact that while Crohn's disease is manifested as a deep, transmural, intestinal wall inflammation typically located at the level of small intestine, especially in the ileum part, but can also be found wherever along the gastrointestinal canal, ulcerative colitis is usually located at the level of the large bowel and interests the superficial intestinal wall layers. Concerning the most probable causes and pathomechanism, literature data indicate a combination of internal and external factors leading to the development of a chronic inflammation at the level of bowel tissue as well as a generalized inflammatory status.

Key words: IBD causes and pathomechanism, *Crohn's* disease (CD), ulcerative colitis (UC)

Introduction

Ulcerative colitis (UC) and Crohn's disease (CD) are two genetically related, chronic inflammatory disorders commonly known as *Inflammatory Bowel Diseases* (IBD). Both phenotype variants are characterized by an increased production of inflammatory cytokines causing chemotaxis, chemokinesis, synthesis of superoxide radicals and the release of the lysosomal enzymes by phagocytes responsible for the alteration of the bowel muscle contractile function,