Extensive small-bowel Crohn’s disease detected by the newly introduced 360° panoramic viewing capsule endoscopy system

Chronic, nonbloody diarrhea may represent a diagnostic challenge in patients with inconclusive findings after standard clinical work-up [1]. In this setting, small-bowel capsule endoscopy (SBCE) has high sensitivity and a favorable clinical impact in assessing the presence of small-bowel mucosal lesions in patients with suspected Crohn’s disease and no obstructive symptoms [1 – 3].

Very recently, the CapsoCam SV-1 (CapsoVision, Inc. Saratoga, California, USA) has been introduced as a new standard in SBCE. The system allows lateral panoramic 360° viewing with wire-free technology, longlasting battery life, and 12 - 20 frames per second captured by four high-resolution cameras located on the capsule sides and facing the four quadrants of the digestive wall [4,5]. To the best of our knowledge, there is no published report on the use of this new technique in patients with suspected small-bowel Crohn’s disease. Here, the case of a 51-year-old woman with a 2-year history of chronic, nonbloody diarrhea is presented. Physical examination was unremarkable and laboratory parameters were within the reference ranges, with the exception of...

Fig. 1 Two superficial jejunal ulcers in the second and fourth quadrants.

Fig. 2 Multiple superficial ulcers in the proximal ileum, quadrants 1 – 3.

Fig. 3 Two deep ulcers (quadrants 2 and 4) and one small, superficial ulcer (quadrant 3) in the distal ileum.

Fig. 4 Large and deep ulcer of the distal ileum (quadrant 3).
This case is interesting for several reasons. First, an unusual case of extensive luminal small-bowel Crohn’s disease was identified in a patient with a long history of chronic, nonbloody diarrhea. Second, the report adds to the growing literature on advanced endoscopic imaging techniques for the small bowel [1–3]. Finally, the performance of a new standard for SBCE has been described, providing multiple, high resolution images and visualizing different aspects of each lesion, which have the potential to improve both the diagnostic yield and the confidence of the operator in assessing the diagnosis and the differential diagnosis.

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Competing interests: None

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