An urgent need to institute COVID-19 testing in patients with IBD experiencing flares

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We are facing unprecedented challenges during the current coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. Management of chronic diseases requiring immunosuppression, such as inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), during this time period has led to difficult and exceptional decision making by both healthcare providers and patients. Decisions with regard to starting or continuing immunosuppression in IBD in both COVID-19 confirmed and suspected patients are done on a case-by-case basis based on pragmatism and experience drawn from other infections. However, our knowledge of COVID-19 is evolving. Rapid mobilisation of efforts globally has led to expert registries and regular updates there by the IBD community through nationally used in management of flare of IBD, steroid withdrawal has played a significant role in rational decision making by both healthcare providers and patients. 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