Microscopic colitis (MC), a common cause of chronic non-bloody diarrhea, comprises collagenous colitis (CC) and lymphocytic colitis (LC). MC is a subtler type of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), compared to ulcerative colitis (UC) and Crohn’s disease (CD). The main clinical symptoms of MC are chronic watery diarrhea, abdominal pain, and weight loss. MC is commonly seen in elderly females. The studies in this thesis investigated innate and adaptive immune responses in the colonic mucosa of MC patients, also comparing patients with active (CC and LC) and with histopathological remission (CC/LC-HR).

Altogether, dysregulated innate and adaptive immune responses were detected in MC patients, both in active and histopathologically in remission patients. These results increase the knowledge of MC pathogenesis by showing changes in Toll-like receptor (TLR) signaling regulators, enhanced chemokine and their receptor expressions involved in a mixed immune cell infiltrations, and selectively expanded T cell clones in CC and LC patients.