



ANNA WICKBOM was born in 1970 and received her M.D. degree from Karolinska Institutet in 1997. She did her internship at Örebro University Hospital where she also obtained her specialist qualification in internal medicine, gastroenterology and hepatology. She is currently working as a consultant at the Division of Gastroenterology at the Department of Medicine, Örebro University Hospital. The work presented in this thesis began in 2004 with Professor Curt Tysk as supervisor.

Microscopic colitis is an umbrella term for collagenous colitis and lymphocytic colitis, two idiopathic inflammatory bowel diseases whose aetiologies are unknown. This thesis studied the epidemiology, risk factors, co-morbidity, symptom burden and quality of life in microscopic colitis. The incidence of microscopic colitis during 1999–2008 was stable around 10 per 100 000 inhabitants per year. Smoking is an important risk factor for microscopic colitis, and smokers develop their disease around 10 years earlier than non-smokers. Collagenous colitis and lymphocytic colitis are associated with other autoimmune disorders, for example thyroid disease. Patients' health-related quality of life is impaired in active microscopic colitis. Collagenous colitis patients in clinical remission have persisting symptoms; abdominal pain, fatigue, arthralgia and myalgia, and lymphocytic colitis patients in remission have persisting fatigue compared with their controls.

Some patients with ulcerative colitis or Crohn's disease develop microscopic colitis later in life, or vice versa. The last study in this thesis describes a Swedish cohort of such patients. The majority of the patients had ulcerative colitis and subsequent collagenous colitis, and most of the patients with ulcerative colitis had extensive disease.

ISSN 1652-4063
ISBN 978-91-7529-188-8

ANNA WICKBOM Epidemiological aspects of Microscopic Colitis

2017

Doctoral Dissertation

Epidemiological aspects of Microscopic Colitis

ANNA WICKBOM

Medical Science with a specialisation in Medicine



ANNA WICKBOM Epidemiological aspects of Microscopic Colitis