Abdominal pain in a patient with ankylosing spondylitis under treatment with infliximab

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In patients suffering from ankylosing spondylitis, silent inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) is frequent. Furthermore, spondylarthritis may be the first manifestation of IBD. We describe the case of a patient suffering from ankylosing spondylitis who presented with abdominal pain. The patient had been treated over 2(1/2) years with infliximab. Although the initial clinical presentation seemed to suggest new-onset IBD as the cause of the abdominal pain, it eventuated that the patient was suffering from a severe abdominal manifestation of tuberculosis likely due to reactivation of latent tuberculosis by the anti-TNF agent.

type: journal paper/review (English)
date of publishing: 8-2009
journal title: Journal of clinical rheumatology : practical reports on rheumatic & musculoskeletal diseases (15/5)
ISSN electronic: 1536-7355
pages: 244-6