

Multicenter, double-blind, placebo-controlled, randomized trial. Paediatric patients with active CD despite immunosuppressive treatment were randomized to:

Thalidomide 1.5 to 2.5mg/kg per day or placebo once daily for 8 weeks.

In an OLE, non-responders to placebo received thalidomide for 8w

**Primary endpoints:** clinical remission at week 8 (PCDAI reduction >24% at w4 and >75% at w8

Primary endpoint for OLE: clinical remission and 75% response

### Results:

- Clinical remission w8, 46.4% thalidomide vs 11.5% placebo,  $p=0.01$
- Clinical response at w8 46.4% thalidomide vs 11.5% placebo,  $p=0.01$ . No differences in clinical response at w4.
- Incidence of severe adverse events 2.1 per 1000 patient-week, peripheral neuropathy the most frequent.

### Conclusion:

In children and adolescents with refractory Crohn disease, thalidomide compared with placebo resulted in improved clinical remission at 8 weeks of treatment and longer-term maintenance of remission in an open-label follow-up. These findings require replication to definitively determine clinical utility of this treatment.

## Effect of Thalidomide on Clinical Remission in Children and Adolescents With Refractory Crohn Disease: A Randomized Clinical Trial

Table 2. Efficacy Data

	Mean (95% CI)		RR (95% CI)	P Value <sup>a</sup>
	Thalidomide (n = 28)	Placebo (n = 26)		
<b>Outcomes at Week 4</b>				
Response, No. (%)				
≥75%	5 (17.9)	3 (11.5)	1.54 (0.43 to 5.91)	
≥50%	9 (32.1)	9 (34.6)	0.92 (0.43 to -1.97)	
≥25%	13 (46.4)	14 (53.8)	0.86 (-1.47 to 0.50)	
PCDAI score	21.0 (16.1 to 25.9)	22.0 (16.6 to 27.4)		
Change in ESR, mm/h	-12.7 (-20.7 to -4.7)	-0.4 (-7.3 to 6.5)		.02
Change in CRP, mg/dL	-1.0 (-2.0 to 0)	0.2 (-0.7 to 1.1)		
Change in WAZ	0.12 (0 to 0.24)	-0.09 (-0.20 to 0.02)		
WAZ <-1 SD, No. (%)	12 (42.8)	20 (76.9)	0.55 (0.34 to 0.89)	.02
Change in BMI z score	0.14 (0 to 0.28)	-0.13 (-0.28 to 0.02)		
BMI <-1 SD, No. (%)	8 (28.5)	15 (57.6)	0.49 (0.25 to 0.96)	
Physician global assessment score	6.0 (5.5 to 6.5)	5.6 (4.8 to 6.4)		
Change in physician global assessment score	1.0 (0.4 to 1.6)	0.5 (0 to 1.0)		
<b>Outcomes at Week 8</b>				
Clinical remission, No. (%)	13 (46.4)	3 (11.5)	4.0 (1.22 to 12.51)	.01
Response, No. (%)				
≥75%	13 (46.4)	3 (11.5)	4.0 (1.22 to 12.51)	.01
≥50%	18 (64.2)	7 (26.9)	2.3 (1.22 to 4.81)	.01
≥25%	18 (64.2)	8 (30.8)	2.11 (-1.11 to 3.90)	.01
PCDAI score <sup>b</sup>	16.8 (11.5 to 22.1)	26.0 (20.8 to 31.2)		.01
Change in ESR, mm/h	-20.9 (-28.8 to -13)	-1.1 (-4.3 to -2.1)		<.001
Change in CRP, mg/dL	-0.7 (-1.9 to 0.5)	0 (-0.5 to 0.5)		
Change in WAZ	0.18 (0.05 to 0.31)	-0.12 (-0.28 to 0.04)		.006
WAZ <-1 SD, No. (%)	12 (43)	19 (73.0)	0.58 (0.36 to 0.95)	.004
Change in BMI z score	0.23 (0.06 to 0.40)	-0.16 (-0.38 to 0.06)		.007
BMI <-1 SD, No. (%)	7 (25)	14 (56)	0.46 (0.22 to -0.96)	.03
Physician global assessment score <sup>c</sup>	6.7 (6.0 to 7.4)	5.3 (4.7 to 5.9)		.01
Change in physician global assessment score	1.7 (0.9 to 2.5)	0.1 (-0.3 to 0.5)		.007

