

Randomized-double blind controlled trial.
 Patients with CD were randomized to azathioprine 4mg/Kg for 10 days and thereafter 2mg/Kg/day vs. placebo for 24 weeks.
 Group I was induced remission with steroids
 Group II were in remission but maintained with prednisolone

Primary endpoints: Effectiveness at week 24

Results: N=22

- Clinical remission at week 24: 10/11 AZA vs 3/11 pbo, $p < 0.01$
- Patients on azathioprine had been off prednisolone for a longer mean period than those on placebo.

Conclusion:

Azathioprine was more effective than placebo in maintaining remission induced by prednisolone.

Controlled trial of Azathioprine in Crohn's disease

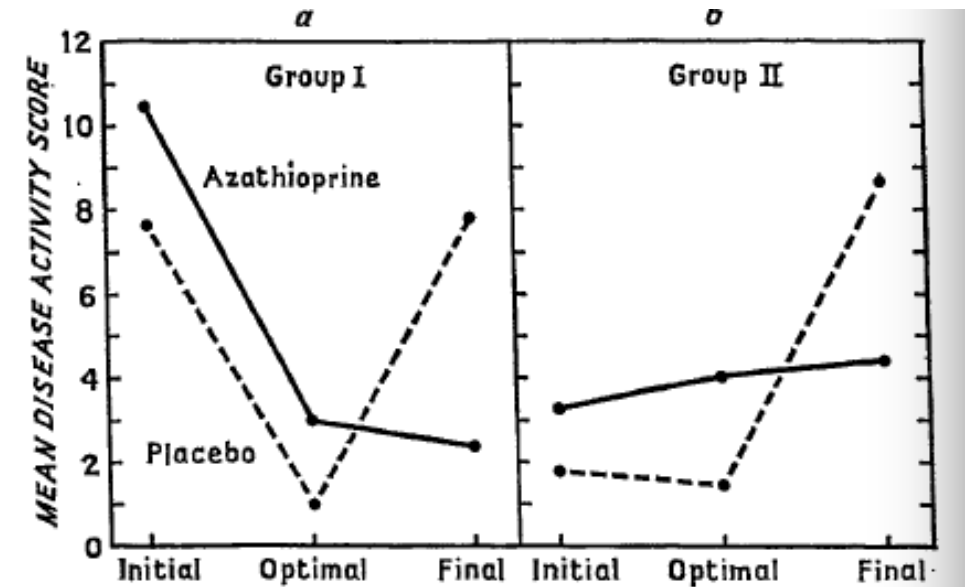


Fig. 2—Progression of mean disease activity score.

In group I (a) and group II (b) initial score = pretreatment, optimal score = prednisolone treatment, and final score = end of trial or withdrawal from the trial.