

Multicenter, randomized double-blind, placebo-controlled trial. Patients with active ulcerative colitis despite 5ASA were randomized to TDM-guided mercaptopurine or placebo for 52 weeks. Steroids were given during the first 8 weeks and 5ASA was continued.

Primary endpoints: Steroid free clinical remission and endoscopic improvement at week 52.

Results: N=59

- At week 52: steroid free clinical remission AND endoscopic improvement 48.3% MCP vs 10% pbo, p=0.002
- Endoscopic Mayo ≤ 1 at week 52: 51.7% MCP vs 13.3% pbo, p=0.033
- Histological remission at week 52: 41.4% MCP vs 16.7% pbo, p=0.047
- Adverse events occurred more frequently with mercaptopurine than placebo.

Conclusion:

Mercaptopurine was superior to placebo in achieving clinical, endoscopic and histological outcomes at 1 year in UC patients.

Mercaptopurine for the Treatment of Ulcerative Colitis: A Randomized Placebo-Controlled Trial

