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## THERAPIE

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Atypical response of spondyloarthritis to biologics revealing Whipple's disease: a case-report\*

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\*This observation is registered in the French pharmacovigilance database under the reference NY 2017 2387 (30 November 2017).

## KEYWORDS

Whipple's disease; biologics; paradoxical aggravation

## Abbreviations

Anti-TNF: anti tumor necrosis factor

CT-PET: positron emission tomography-computed tomography

DOX: doxycycline

HCQ: hydroxychloroquine

HLA B27: human leucocyte antigen B27

MRI: magnetic resonance imaging

NSAID: non steroidal anti-inflammatory drug

PAS: periodic-acid-Schiff

PCR: polymerase chain reactions

SPA: spondyloarthritis

WHO: World health organisation

Whipple's disease (WD) mimicking a chronic inflammatory rheumatism with a severe weight loss and diarrhea is often undiagnosed. WD revelation during biologics for arthritides seems to be increasingly observed.

A 52-year-old woman was diagnosed human leucocyte antigen B27 (HLA B27)-negative spondyloarthritis (SPA) for 4 years, with a left sacroiliitis on magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). Due to nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAIDs) plus methotrexate inefficiency and high disease activity, she was treated with a rotation of anti-tumor necrosis factor (anti-TNF) for 14

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