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Early Azathioprine Therapy is no More Effective Than Placebo for Newly Diagnosed Crohn's Disease

Short title: Early azathioprine in Crohn's disease

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Abbreviations: CD : Crohn's Disease; CDAI : Crohn's Disease Activity Index; IBDQ: Inflammatory Bowel Disease Questionnaire.

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- ii. The study was sponsored by Grupo Español de Trabajo en Enfermedad de Crohn y Colitis Ulcerosa (GETECCU). UCB pharma Spain generously provided the medication and placebo preparations.
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Author contributions:

JP and MS designed the trial. JP, AL-S, FB, VG, ME, YT, ED, MP, MG-G, AG, CT, and MS contributed to data collection. JP wrote the first draft of the manuscript, JP, AL-S, FB, VG, ME, YT, ED, MP, MG-G, AG, CT, and MS contributed to the final version of the manuscript JP, AL-S, FB, VG, ME, YT, ED, MP, MG-G, AG, CT, and MS approved the final version of the manuscript. Data analysis was performed by the CRO overseeing the study (CABYC), according to a pre-established statistical analysis plan.

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