Oral thrush turned out to be neonatal very early onset inflammatory bowel disease

Case presentation

- Term-born female neonate (GA 40 5/7, weight 3890 g)
- 4 episodes of inflammatory states, partly with thrush and aphthae.
- Treatment: Antibiotics, antifungal agents.
- Reason: IL-10-receptor deficiency.
- Treatment: Steroids, infliximab, stem cell transplantation.



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VEO-IBD: general and case-specific characteristics

VEO-IBD

- Occurrence: first year of life.
- Associated with positive family history, consanguinity.
- Fever, reduced general appearance, aphthae, thrush, dysphagia, vomiting.
- Recurrent infections, syndromic aspects, delays in neurodevelopment.
- True paediatric (polygenic) IBD: Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis.
- Related to primary immunodeficiencies.

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Conclusion

- Neonatal presentation of IBD often non-specific.
- Appearance suggestive for bacterial/fungal infections.
- If standard treatment fails: Think gastrointestinal inflammatory syndromes!





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