

CGA/19/34 - Investigating cathelicidin blockade as a novel therapeutic for inflammatory bowel diseases

Inflammatory bowel diseases have profound impacts on patients, their families and the NHS, and Scotland has one of the highest rates in the world. Disease symptoms are caused in large part by one type of white blood cell, a T cell. Although these cells are essential for fighting off infection, they can also cause damage to the intestine tissue, leading to inflammation. We have found that a small protein, cathelicidin, is produced by the intestine and is important for making damaging T cells. Now, we wish to study how to disrupt this process and lessen the symptoms of bowel disease.