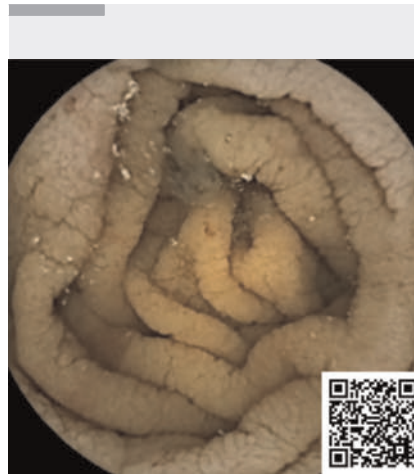


## Intestinal *Mycobacterium avium* complex infection: a rare case of small-bowel atrophy

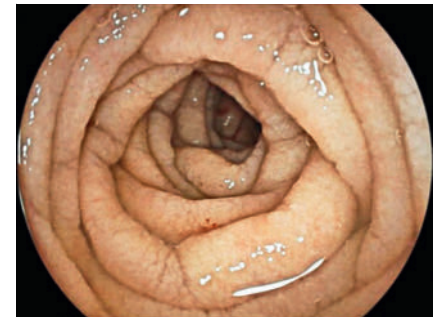


We report the case of a 57-year-old woman with acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) who was admitted to the emergency room with fever, diarrhea, and severe malnutrition (body mass index [BMI] 15.8 kg/m<sup>2</sup>). Her history was notable for human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection with poor therapeutic adherence, which had been complicated by multiple opportunistic infections. Esophagogastroduodenoscopy and colonoscopy were macroscopically normal. A video capsule endoscopy was performed, which revealed diffuse jejunal atrophy, and whitish and edematous enteric mucosa with scalloping (► **Video 1**). Subsequently, antegrade double-balloon enteroscopy confirmed significant signs of atrophy with scalloping and a mosaic pattern in the jejunum (► **Fig. 1**). Subsequent histologic examination raised the suspicion of *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) (► **Fig. 2**), which was confirmed afterward by polymerase chain reaction (PCR). Treatment was therefore initiated with rifabutin, azithromycin, and ethambutol with clinical improvement.

Disseminated MAC is an infection caused by a nontuberculous mycobacterial species [1], with this type usually associated with HIV infection; however, the wide-



► **Video 1** Video capsule endoscopy showing diffuse jejunal atrophy, and whitish and edematous enteric mucosa with scalloping in a patient with *Mycobacterium avium* complex disease.



► **Fig. 1** Image during antegrade double-balloon enteroscopy showing signs of atrophy, scalloping, and a mosaic pattern of the jejunum in a patient with *Mycobacterium avium* complex disease.

to support endoscopists and clinicians in their everyday practice.

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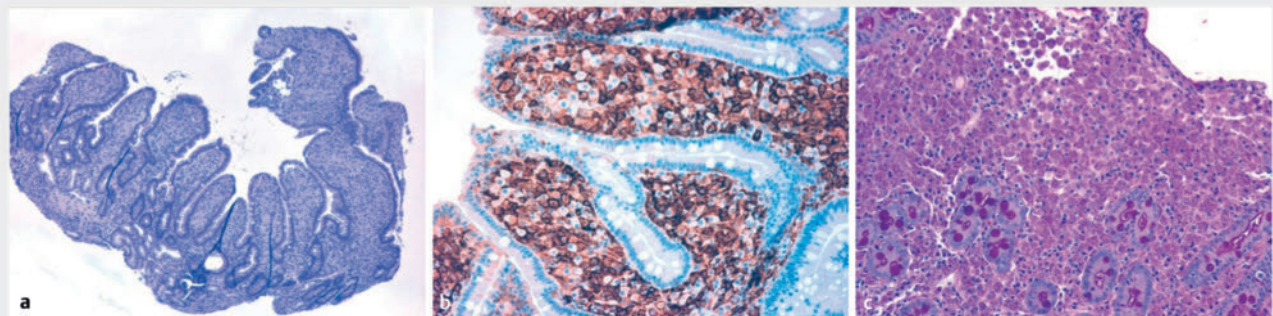
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### Conflict of Interest


The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

spread use of effective antiretroviral therapy and the use of prophylaxis against MAC infection have reduced the incidence of this illness [2]. This case describes a rare manifestation of an infrequent opportunistic infection that is typical of AIDS patients. In addition, we report detailed imaging and video documentation of a MAC-driven enteropathy



► **Fig. 2** Histologic appearance showing: **a** ileal mucosa with diffusely enlarged villi (hematoxylin and eosin [H&E] stained; magnification ×40); **b** ileal lamina propria filled with histiocytes (CD68 immunostaining; ×200); **c** histiocytic cytoplasm full of periodic acid–Schiff (PAS)-positive bacilli (PAS stained; ×200).

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