

## **COLOSTOMY IRRIGATION DOES NOT ALTER NITROUS OXIDE SYNTHASE EXPRESSION IN THE COLON**

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The distribution of nitric oxide synthase (NOS), an enzyme involved in the synthesis of the presumed non-adrenergic inhibitory neurotransmitter nitric oxide (NO), was demonstrated and compared between long term colonic irrigation patients and controls. Samples of tissue from full thickness stomal biopsies were fixed in 10% neutral buffered formal saline and paraffin embedded sections prepared. The distribution of NOS was demonstrated immunohistochemically and statistically. The results will show that the NOS level in the colon is not altered by long term irrigation.