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Brief Definitive Report

Cover picture: Activators of the peroxisome proliferator–activated receptor γ (PPARγ)/retinoid X receptor (RXR) protect against colitis. PPARγ$^{+/-}$ (top left) and RXRα$^{+/-}$ (top right) mice both displayed a significant susceptibility to 2,4,6-trinitrobenzene sulfonic acid (TNBS)-induced colitis compared to their wild-type littermates (bottom), as shown in these transparietal colon sections. In the 129/Sv wild-type mice (bottom), the inflammatory infiltrate was moderate, with necrosis limited to the superficial part of the mucosa. Under the same conditions, the lesions were more severe in PPARγ$^{+/-}$ (top left) and RXRα$^{+/-}$ (top right) mice, which showed a thickening of the colon wall, a marked transparietal inflammatory infiltrate, and necrosis. These results demonstrate that both RXR and PPARγ are involved in the regulation of intestinal inflammation. See related article in this issue by Desreumaux et al., pp. 827–838.