Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD)

**INCREASE IN THE WEST**
Dramatic sustained increase in incidence in many western countries

**INCREASE IN THE EAST**
Recent increase in incidence in Eastern Europe putting pressure on healthcare systems

**FINANCIAL BURDEN**
Heavy financial burden to Western healthcare systems

**MORE COMMON IN NORTH & WEST EUROPE**
More common in northern and western regions of Europe, especially for Crohn’s disease

**MORE COMMON IN THE EAST**
A north: south and an east: west gradient in the incidence of both Crohn’s disease and ulcerative colitis.

**AVAILABILITY OF DRUGS, INVESTIGATIONS AND TREATMENT STRATEGIES**
Availability of drugs, investigations and treatment strategies vary significantly across Europe