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Summary

AGREEMENT RATE OF ACUTE FOOD INDUCED MUCOSAL ALTERATIONS VISUALIZED USING CONFOCAL LASER ENDOMICROSCOPY IN IRRITABLE BOWEL SYNDROME PATIENTS

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A multicentric international study reports the first interobserver agreement rates for confocal laser endomicroscopy assessment of acute food-induced mucosal alterations in irritable bowel syndrome, finding substantial agreement among blinded assessors.

KEY POINTS

- Five investigators from three centers blindly assessed 124 confocal laser endomicroscopy video sequences (94572 frames, 197 minutes) showing acute food-triggered mucosal changes in IBS patients, with mucosa considered altered when fluorescein leakage and cell shedding were simultaneously present.
- Overall interobserver agreement rate was 86% (κ=0.69), with intraindividual agreement between 90 and 100% (κ=0.74-1.00).
- Agreement between blinded assessors and real-time endoscopist assessment ranged from 78% (κ=0.55) to 86% (κ=0.67) across the three centers.
- Slow-motion video review did not improve agreement rates compared to real-time assessment (81%, κ=0.58 versus 86%, κ=0.69).
- A cutoff of 2 altered spots in a recording of 5 spots demonstrated 100% sensitivity and specificity for detecting mucosal alterations when validated against the 63 videos with complete assessor agreement.

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