

ASSOCIATION BETWEEN ETHNICITY AND IRRITABLE BOWEL SYNDROME PATIENT'S BEHAVIOR AND TREATMENT

Amir Mari

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Poster

Colorectal

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A study of 267 Israeli IBS patients found that treatment goal preferences differ between Arab and Jewish populations, with both groups prioritizing abdominal pain, bloating, and regular defecation but Arab patients assigning lower importance scores to various symptoms overall.

KEY POINTS

- The study surveyed 91 Arab and 176 Jewish IBS patients using a bilingual questionnaire administered through Facebook groups and hospital clinics.
- Both Arab and Jewish patients prioritized improvement in abdominal pain, bloating, and regular defecation, while assigning lower importance to sexual function difficulties and musculoskeletal pain.
- Arab patients assigned lower importance scores to various symptoms compared to Jewish patients and reported more bloating, higher rates of IBS-related comorbidities, and greater medication usage.
- Arabs exhibited higher rates of mixed-type IBS and constipation, while Jews had higher prevalence of predominant diarrhea IBS.
- The authors conclude that ethnicity impacts treatment goal preferences and that understanding these preferences may enable individualized approaches to IBS care.

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