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Summary

DETECTION OF HIGH-RISK POLYPS AT SCREENING COLONOSCOPY INDICATES RISK FOR HEPATOBILIARY CANCER DEATH

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UEG Week Copenhagen 2023 | Poster

Colorectal

October 15, 2023

Patients with high-risk colonic polyps identified during colorectal cancer screening show significantly increased risk of hepatobiliary cancer mortality compared to those with negative colonoscopy.

KEY POINTS

- In a retrospective cohort of 343,838 Austrian screening colonoscopies (2007-2020), hepatobiliary cancer mortality was more than twice as high in patients with high-risk polyps (0.39%) versus negative colonoscopy (0.16%).
- After adjusting for age and sex, high-risk polyps were significantly associated with liver cancer death (HR 1.62, 95% CI 1.07-2.45, p=0.02), while low-risk polyps showed no significant association (HR 1.18, p=0.18).
- The authors suggest further studies are needed to determine whether additional screening for liver diseases might be beneficial in patients with high-risk colonic polyps.
- This material is relevant to gastroenterologists and hepatologists involved in cancer screening programs and risk stratification.

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