

MICROBIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OF BILE IN PATIENTS UNDERGONE TO ENDOSCOPIC RETROGRADE CHOLANGIOGRAPHY: THE “MICROBILE” REGISTRY

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Poster

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A prospective study of 162 patients undergoing ERCP found that 52% had positive biliary cultures despite intact sphincter of Oddi, with no increase in microbial colonization after sphincterotomy and no association between positive cultures and neoplastic disease or immunosuppression.

KEY POINTS

- Bile cultures were obtained in 100% of 162 consecutive patients with native papilla undergoing ERCP, with 52% positive for at least one bacterium before any sphincterotomy was performed
- No differences in microbial community were detected before versus after sphincterotomy, challenging the assumption that sphincter disruption promotes ascending bacterial colonization
- Multidrug-resistant bacteria were found in 5% of patients (7 ESBL, 1 MRSA, 1 VRE), with no significant correlation to underlying disease, cholangitis, or immunomodulant exposure
- Of 78 patients with positive cultures, 59% had cholangitis and all were receiving antibiotic therapy; patients on immunomodulant agents showed no increased risk of positive bile cultures
- The study enrolled patients with varied indications including choledocolithiasis (58.6%), pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (17.3%), acute cholangitis (14.3%), and cholangiocarcinoma (3.7%)

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