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Summary

THE USE OF STATINS, METFORMIN, AND RAS INHIBITORS DID NOT IMPACT ON VARICEAL BLEEDING RISK AND MORTALITY - A LARGE, REAL-LIFE MULTICENTER STUDY OF PATIENTS WITH CIRRHOSIS

Christian Madl

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Hepatobiliary

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A retrospective multicenter study of 920 cirrhotic patients found that statins, metformin, and RAS inhibitors did not reduce variceal bleeding or mortality rates in those undergoing endoscopic band ligation.

KEY POINTS

- Among 920 cirrhotic patients with varices undergoing endoscopic band ligation between 2000 and 2020, 5.3% used statins, 8% used metformin, and 9.9% used RAS inhibitors.
- Use of these comedications did not decrease bleeding rates overall (log-rank p-values: statin 0.213, metformin 0.496, RAS inhibitor 0.758).
- Mortality rates were similar between users and non-users of these medications, both overall and when stratified by primary versus secondary prophylaxis.
- The authors recommend continuing these medications when otherwise indicated, as they may benefit non-bleeding complications, despite no observed effect on variceal bleeding or mortality in this cohort.

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