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Summary

LONG-TERM OUTCOME OF VERY EARLY ONSET INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE ASSOCIATED WITH PRIMARY SCLEROSING CHOLANGITIS: A MULTICENTER STUDY FROM THE PEDIATRIC IBD PORTO GROUP OF ESPGHAN

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IBD

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A multicenter retrospective study of 69 children found that PSC-IBD diagnosed before age 6 years has similar baseline characteristics to later-onset disease but shows a milder course with fewer biliary complications over 5-year follow-up.

KEY POINTS

- Children with very early-onset PSC-IBD (diagnosed before age 6, n=28) had significantly lower risk of developing biliary strictures and infective cholangitis compared to those diagnosed after age 6 (n=41), with no differences in portal hypertension or liver transplantation rates at 5 years
- Autoimmune sclerosing cholangitis was more frequently diagnosed in the very early-onset group (86% vs 66%, p=0.04), while other baseline PSC-related variables were similar between groups
- Both age groups presented with predominantly mild intestinal disease severity at diagnosis and showed no significant differences in major IBD outcomes during follow-up
- Most patients in both groups had ulcerative colitis (75% and 83% respectively) with extensive disease distribution (89% in both), and similar proportions had IBD diagnosed before, simultaneously with, or after PSC
- This study represents the first analysis of age-dependent features in pediatric PSC-IBD and may be relevant for pediatric gastroenterologists managing children with overlapping inflammatory bowel and liver disease

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