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Summary

ENDOSCOPIC TIP CONTROL - A SIMPLE, EX-VIVO MODEL WITH POTENTIAL FOR ENDOSCOPIST BENCHMARKING AND TRACKING OF PROGRESS OVER TIME

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A novel ex-vivo scoring tool was developed and validated to objectively measure endoscope tip manipulation quality using snare tip soft coagulation on a ham model, successfully stratifying 22 endoscopists by skill level.

KEY POINTS

- The tool measured accuracy (median 82.0%) and speed (0.141 correct hits/second) of snare tip soft coagulation application to marked circles on cooked ham, with accuracy strongly correlating with blinded assessment of macroscopic appearance (correlation coefficient 0.78, P<.001).
- Interventional endoscopists demonstrated significantly higher accuracy (88.0%, P=.001) and speed (0.191/s, P=.04) compared to other participants, while non-interventional consultants had the lowest accuracy (69.0%).
- Trainees showed similar accuracy to non-trainees but significantly slower speed (P=.03), while endoscopists with more than 5 years experience did not demonstrate better tip-control than less experienced participants.
- This represents the first objective ex-vivo assessment tool for endoscopic tip manipulation quality, which the authors suggest may provide a benchmark for tracking procedural skill development if linked to established performance indicators.

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