VALIDATION OF SERUM PEPSINOGEN AND HELICOBACTER PYLORI TEST IN THE DETECTION OF DIFFUSE-TYPE GASTRIC CANCER AMONG 23,130 HEALTH CHECKUP SUBJECTS IN SOUTH KOREA

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A study of 23,130 participants validates serum pepsinogen II combined with Helicobacter pylori antibody testing as a screening tool for identifying high-risk gastric cancer subjects, particularly for early-stage diffuse-type gastric cancer.

KEY POINTS

- PGII levels ≥21 ng/ml were associated with increased risk of gastric adenoma (OR 1.38), gastric cancer (OR 2.77), diffuse-type gastric cancer (OR 4.26), and especially early-stage diffuse-type gastric cancer (OR 7.11), all $p<0.001$.
- The study enrolled 1,705 gastric neoplasms (1,287 gastric cancers and 418 gastric adenomas) and 21,425 controls, measuring serum pepsinogens and anti-Helicobacter pylori antibody.
- Combining PGII≥21ng/ml with positive Helicobacter pylori status in young females was associated with high risk of early-stage diffuse-type gastric cancer.
- Risk assessment combining each pepsinogen value with Helicobacter pylori antibody showed stepwise odds ratio increments from HP negative to positive and from each PG value negative to positive after adjusting for confounding factors.
- The material is most relevant for clinicians and researchers interested in biomarker-based gastric cancer screening strategies.

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