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Summary

ASSOCIATION BETWEEN ESOPHAGEAL MOTOR DISORDERS AND PULMONARY INVOLVEMENT IN PATIENTS AFFECTED BY SYSTEMIC SCLEROSIS: A RETROSPECTIVE STUDY

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Oesophagus

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A retrospective study of 42 systemic sclerosis patients found an association between severity of esophageal motor disorders and degree of pulmonary involvement measured by high-resolution CT.

KEY POINTS

- Patients underwent high-resolution manometry with Chicago Classification 4.0 and pulmonary evaluation including high-resolution CT scored with the Warrick system, where a score of 7 or above was considered predictive of interstitial lung disease.
- Higher Warrick scores were observed in subjects with absent contractility or ineffective esophageal motility compared to those with normal esophageal motility, and distal contractile integral correlated inversely with CT scores.
- Lower baseline lower esophageal sphincter pressure was significantly associated with greater CT scores at follow-up evaluation.
- The study concludes that more severe esophageal involvement is associated with more critical pulmonary disease in systemic sclerosis patients.

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