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Summary

DIAGNOSTIC ACCURACY OF THREE DIMENSIONS HIGH-DEFINITION ANORECTAL MANOMETRY IN THE DIAGNOSIS OF OBSTETRIC ANAL SPHINCTER INJURIES

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Colorectal

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Three-dimensional high-definition anorectal manometry showed 77.8% diagnostic accuracy for detecting anal sphincter injuries in 27 women with postpartum anal incontinence compared to endoanal ultrasound as reference.

KEY POINTS

- In this retrospective study, 3D-HDARM demonstrated 80% sensitivity and 75% specificity for identifying anal sphincter complex injuries, with manometric records interpreted blindly by an expert unaware of ultrasound findings.
- Among the 27 women studied, 51.9% had obstetric anal sphincter injuries (OASIS grade III or IV), with 55.6% showing abnormalities on both endoanal ultrasound and 3D-HDARM.
- Symptom severity measured by Wexner and Vaizey Incontinence Scores did not differ significantly between women with and without anal sphincter injuries (p=0.757 and p=0.947 respectively).
- Anal resting pressure and squeeze pressure showed no statistically significant differences between injury and no-injury groups, though anal squeeze duration was significantly longer in the injury group (16.2 vs 9.5 seconds, p=0.045).
- The authors suggest 3D-HDARM may serve as a screening tool for morphological assessment of the anal sphincter complex in women with postpartum anal incontinence.

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