OCCURRENCE AND CHARACTERISTICS OF ENDOSCOPIC GASTRIC POLYPS IN PATIENTS WITH AUTOIMMUNE ATROPHIC GASTRITIS: A MULTICENTRIC CROSS-SECTIONAL STUDY

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In a multicentric Italian study of 612 patients with autoimmune atrophic gastritis, 36.3% developed gastric polyps during median 4-year follow-up, including neuroendocrine neoplasms, inflammatory and adenomatous polyps, and adenocarcinoma in 6.1% of non-endocrine lesions.

KEY POINTS

- Among 612 autoimmune atrophic gastritis patients (median age 66, 73.9% female), 222 (36.3%) had at least one gastric polyp detected during endoscopic surveillance.
- Non-endocrine polyps occurred in 162 patients and comprised 151 inflammatory polyps (70.5%), 29 adenomatous polyps (13.6%), 18 fundic gland polyps (8.4%), 13 adenocarcinomas (6.1%), and one MALT lymphoma.
- Gastric neuroendocrine neoplasms were found in 108 patients (17.6% of the total cohort), with 48 patients having both neuroendocrine and non-endocrine polyps.
- Polyp presence was associated with older age (median 70 vs 63 years, P=0.0006), higher plasma gastrin levels (median 687 vs 581.5 pg/mL, P=0.041), and higher chromogranin A levels (P=0.010), but not with OLGA/OLGIM stage or H. pylori status.
- The authors state this represents the largest multicentric cohort of autoimmune atrophic gastritis patients and emphasize the importance of proactive endoscopic monitoring to identify and manage diverse gastric lesions in this population.

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