

The management of postoperative Crohn's disease

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Presentation

Colorectal

Endoscopy

IBD

Nurses

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The speaker discussed management of complications following ileocecal resection for Crohn's disease, emphasizing postoperative recurrence prevention, early endoscopic monitoring, and addressing bile acid malabsorption, bacterial overgrowth, and vitamin B12 deficiency.

KEY POINTS

- The speaker stated that with universal prevention using thiopurines, anti-TNF, or vedolizumab, approximately 30-40% of patients still develop endoscopic recurrence after one year, while 20-30% may be overtreated.
- The speaker recommended first colonoscopy at six months after surgery, with a second assessment at 18 months if no lesions are found, regardless of preventive therapy strategy.
- The speaker reported that in a small Spanish study, all patients with Crohn's disease and ileocecal resections who underwent SeHCAT scanning had bile acid malabsorption, a common cause of early postoperative diarrhoea.
- The speaker stated that bile acid sequestrants are highly effective for diarrhoea cessation based on a meta-analysis of seven studies.
- The speaker advised cobalamin supplementation if deficiency is present at surgery or if ileal resection exceeds 20 cm, based on a retrospective study showing resection length as the only associated factor.
- The speaker recommended mandatory smoking cessation counseling in active smokers, noting that two-thirds of over 600 surveyed patients were unaware of smoking risks for disease progression.

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