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Summary

FUSION EUS IMAGING: IS IT READY FOR PRIME TIME?

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Pancreas

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A second-generation endoscopic ultrasound fusion imaging system using electromagnetic navigation was tested in a porcine model to co-register real-time EUS images with pre-procedure CT cross-sections.

KEY POINTS

- The system used electromagnetic 6 degrees of freedom positioning sensors placed on the model and within a catheter in the endoscope working channel to enable real-time fusion of live EUS images with pre-procedure CT
- Testing was performed on a porcine model with simulated structures including gallbladder and pseudocyst to replicate interventional procedures such as EUS-guided fine needle aspiration or drainage
- The system displayed both EUS image and corresponding CT cross-section in real-time, with small registration errors overcome by allowing the operator to adjust catheter tip angle during the procedure
- The stated purpose of incorporating image fusion into pancreatico-biliary pathology includes improving the EUS learning curve, enhancing accuracy of preoperative tumor resectability assessment, and increasing safety of therapeutic EUS procedures

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