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Summary

THE LONG-TERM EFFECT ON SURGERY-FREE SURVIVAL OF BIOLOGICAL COMPARED TO CONVENTIONAL THERAPY IN CROHN'S DISEASE IN REAL WORLD-DATA: A PROPENSITY-SCORE MATCHED STUDY

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A retrospective study of 203 Crohn's disease patients found that biological therapy had only a slight impact on surgery occurrence over a long observation period, with similar cumulative incidence of first intestinal resection compared to conventional therapy when considering propensity-matched analysis.

KEY POINTS

- After propensity matching analysis, no significant difference in surgery-free survival was found between biological therapy (49 patients) and conventional therapy (154 patients) groups (p=0.3).
- Subgroup analysis showed shorter surgery-free survival in conventional therapy patients in the pre-biologic era (p=0.02), but no significant difference between biological and conventional therapy in the post-biologic era (p=0.15).
- The authors conclude that biological therapy appears to delay the first intestinal resection, but the cumulative incidence of first intestinal resection ends up being similar over a very long period.
- Despite milder disease, patients in the conventional group in the biologic era had the same surgery-free survival compared to patients receiving biological therapy.

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