RISK ASSESSMENT QUESTIONNAIRE IN A WESTERN COMMUNITY TO IDENTIFY A GASTIC CANCER RISK POPULATION: THE GASTROSCREENING PROJECT

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The GASTROFORM online questionnaire was developed to identify individuals aged 40-80 years who require esophagogastroduodenoscopy based on gastric cancer risk factors and alarm symptoms, with initial testing on 4426 respondents in Italy.

KEY POINTS

- GASTROFORM is an online questionnaire collecting data on demographics, family history, gastrointestinal symptoms, alarm symptoms, and recent endoscopy history to stratify gastric cancer risk.
- In the first study phase involving 4426 valid questionnaires submitted in November 2022, 13.82% of respondents reported at least one alarm symptom indicating need for prompt esophagogastroduodenoscopy.
- The authors expect the tool to increase diagnosis rates for Barrett esophagus from 1.8% to 5-8%, atrophic gastritis from 9% to 20-30%, and early gastric cancer from 0.019% to 1-2%.
- The questionnaire targets individuals aged 40 to 80 years in Italy, where gastric cancer remains one of the most frequent tumors despite no approved large-scale screening program.
- This preliminary report presents the first phase of a project developing a screening tool; gastroenterologists and researchers interested in gastric cancer early detection programs would benefit from the full material.

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