

WHAT FACTORS PREDICT FAILURE TO CLEAR BILE DUCT STONES DURING THE FIRST ERCP PROCEDURE?

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Poster

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A 20-year retrospective study of 1,080 ERCP procedures identified cholangitis, impacted or large stones, common bile duct dilation greater than 15 mm, and biliary strictures as independent predictors of failure to clear bile duct stones on the first attempt.

KEY POINTS

- Primary duct clearance was achieved in 75.1% of cases using standard extraction techniques, increasing to 92.4% overall after supplementary techniques were applied in 22.7% of procedures.
- On multivariate analysis, four independent predictors of primary clearance failure were identified: presence of cholangitis (OR 1.9), impacted and/or large stones (OR 2.5), CBD dilation greater than 15 mm (OR 0.88), and biliary stricture (OR 2.9).
- The study population had a mean age of 58.9 ± 14.4 years with 59.5% female predominance, mean CBD diameter of 13.4 ± 4.31 mm, and biliary strictures present in 6.3% of cases.
- This retrospective analysis spanning September 2005 to September 2025 may inform procedural planning and patient counseling for ERCP in bile duct stone management.

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