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Summary

DOES OPIOID DOSAGE FOR PAIN MANAGEMENT IMPACT ON SEVERITY OF ACUTE PANCREATITIS? A MULTICENTRE INTERNATIONAL PROSPECTIVE STUDY

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Pancreas

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A post-hoc analysis of 1,030 first-time acute pancreatitis patients from 27 countries found a dose-dependent association between opioid exposure and risk of moderately severe or severe disease.

KEY POINTS

- Receiving more than 40 mg morphine-equivalent dose increased the risk of moderately severe or severe acute pancreatitis more than threefold compared to less than 10 mg (OR 3.51, 95% CI 2.09-5.93, P<0.001).
- Independent risk factors for moderately severe or severe acute pancreatitis included high comorbidity burden (CCI>2), alcohol aetiology, pre-admission pain duration exceeding 24 hours, and higher pain severity on admission.
- Among the cohort, 78% had mild acute pancreatitis, 14% developed moderately severe disease, and 8% developed severe disease.
- The authors conclude that further studies are warranted to explore this association given potential clinical implications for pain management in acute pancreatitis.

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