

MICROSCOPIC COLITIS AND RISK OF CANCER AND MORTALITY: A NATIONWIDE COHORT STUDY WITH EXTENDED FOLLOW-UP

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A nationwide Swedish cohort study of 23,760 microscopic colitis patients followed through 2023 found modest increases in all-cause mortality and overall cancer risk, with significantly reduced colorectal cancer risk but increased lymphoma and lung cancer risk.

KEY POINTS

- Microscopic colitis was associated with modestly increased all-cause mortality (aHR 1.08, 95% CI 1.05–1.11 after adjustment for comorbidities), with collagenous colitis showing stronger association than lymphocytic colitis.
- Overall cancer risk was modestly elevated (aHR 1.07, 95% CI 1.02–1.12), with increased risks of lymphoma (aHR 1.29) and lung cancer (aHR 1.32).
- Colorectal cancer risk was substantially reduced (aHR 0.55, 95% CI 0.46–0.66), and gastrointestinal cancer overall was also reduced (aHR 0.78).
- The authors suggest that routine colorectal cancer screening may be unwarranted in microscopic colitis patients and that managing comorbid conditions is important for long-term care.
- This material is relevant for gastroenterologists and clinicians managing patients with microscopic colitis who need to understand long-term cancer and mortality risks.

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