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Summary

PAN-INTESTINAL CAPSULE ENDOSCOPY VERSUS CONVENTIONAL COLONOSCOPY IN PATIENTS WITH SUSPECTED MID OR LOWER GASTROINTESTINAL BLEEDING

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In a prospective single-centre study of 100 patients with suspected mid or lower gastrointestinal bleeding, pan-intestinal capsule endoscopy demonstrated superior diagnostic sensitivity (95.7%) compared to conventional colonoscopy (50%) for detecting potentially haemorrhagic lesions.

KEY POINTS

- Pan-intestinal capsule endoscopy detected 44 of 46 patients (95.7%) with potentially haemorrhagic lesions versus 23 of 46 (50%) by colonoscopy, with both methods showing 100% specificity against the consensus panel gold standard.
- Capsule endoscopy identified lesions missed by colonoscopy in 30 of 46 patients (65.2%), while colonoscopy alone found lesions in only 3 of 46 patients (6.5%).
- Even for lesions accessible to ileocolonoscopy (31% of patients), capsule endoscopy achieved higher detection rates (93.5%) than conventional colonoscopy (74.2%).
- No significant adverse events occurred with capsule endoscopy compared to 2% cardiopulmonary events with colonoscopy under deep sedation.
- The study population comprised patients with iron deficiency anaemia (81%) or overt bleeding (19%) after non-diagnostic upper endoscopy, with mean haemoglobin 8.4 g/dL and 40% being inpatients.

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