USEFULNESS OF FUNCTIONAL ENDOSCOPY WITH THE ENDOSCOPIC PRESSURE STUDY INTEGRATED SYSTEM (EPSIS) FOR THE DIAGNOSIS OF ESOPHAGEAL ACHALASIA

Kazuki Yamamoto

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A retrospective cohort study evaluated the Endoscopic Pressure Study Integrated System (EPSIS) as an adjunct diagnostic tool for esophageal achalasia by comparing intragastric pressure waveform gradients between achalasia patients and controls.

KEY POINTS

- 35 achalasia patients and 34 controls underwent EPSIS at a tertiary referral hospital between January and December 2022, with achalasia confirmed by upper endoscopy, high-resolution manometry, and barium esophagram.
- The gradient of the pressure waveform was significantly higher in achalasia patients compared to controls (0.45 ± 0.17 vs. 0.31 ± 0.17 mmHg/sec, p=0.0008), indicating failure of lower esophageal sphincter relaxation.
- ROC analysis showed EPSIS had an area under the curve of 0.76 for detecting achalasia, with achalasia patients displaying steeper waveforms than controls.
- The authors suggest EPSIS may be a useful adjunct diagnostic tool for esophageal achalasia and other disorders of lower esophageal sphincter function, extending beyond its prior application in gastroesophageal reflux disease.

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