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Summary

EARLY LIFE RISK FACTORS OF CHILDHOOD IRRITABLE BOWEL SYNDROME —A MOTHER-CHILD BIRTH COHORT STUDY FROM GUSTO

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Oesophagus

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A prospective Singapore birth cohort study of 827 mother-child pairs identified perinatal and childhood risk factors significantly associated with development of IBS by age 11 years.

KEY POINTS

- By year 11, 4.8 percent of participants met Rome IV criteria for IBS.
- Perinatal risk factors significantly associated with childhood IBS included emergency delivery intervention, female gender, higher birth weight, and maternal depression during pregnancy.
- Childhood risk factors significantly associated with IBS included child generalized anxiety, maternal anxiety, and authoritarian parenting style.
- This is reported as the first prospective mother-offspring cohort study examining early life risk factors for childhood IBS, addressing limitations of retrospective adult studies.
- The findings may inform identification of at-risk children, though the authors note further research is needed to validate results and explore underlying mechanisms.

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