INCREASED RISK OF ESOPHAGEAL SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA IN PATIENTS WITH SQUAMOUS DYSPLASIA: A NATIONWIDE COHORT STUDY IN THE NETHERLANDS

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A Dutch nationwide cohort study of 873 patients with esophageal squamous dysplasia found substantial annual esophageal squamous cell carcinoma risk across all dysplasia grades, including mild-to-moderate dysplasia.

KEY POINTS

- After excluding prevalent cases, the annual risk of esophageal squamous cell carcinoma was 4.0% (95% CI: 2.7-5.7%) in patients with mild-to-moderate dysplasia and 8.5% (95% CI: 5.9-11.7%) in those with higher-grade dysplasia.
- Among 456 patients with mild-to-moderate dysplasia, 77 (17%) developed esophageal squamous cell carcinoma, with annual risks of 2.1% for mild dysplasia, 5.1% for low-grade dysplasia, and 5.2% for moderate dysplasia.
- Among 393 patients with higher-grade dysplasia, 162 (41%) developed esophageal squamous cell carcinoma.
- The authors conclude that endoscopic surveillance is recommended for patients with mild-to-moderate dysplasia in Western countries.
- This study is relevant for gastroenterologists managing patients with esophageal squamous dysplasia and developing surveillance protocols.

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