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Summary

THE ROLE AND PREVALENCE OF CANDIDA IN GUT MICROBIOME IN PATIENTS WITH NAFLD

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A case-control study of 93 NAFLD patients and 85 controls found Candida prevalence was nearly three times higher in NAFLD patients (35% vs 13%) and correlated with elevated triglycerides, TNF-alpha, and an increased Firmicutes/Bacteroidetes ratio.

KEY POINTS

- Candida prevalence in the gut microbiota of NAFLD patients was 35% compared to 13% in controls without fatty liver infiltration
- NAFLD patients showed a higher Firmicutes/Bacteroidetes ratio (4.02 vs 1.82) and lower Bacteroidetes levels (21.10 vs 45.54) compared to controls
- In NAFLD patients, Candida presence positively correlated with the Firmicutes/Bacteroidetes index (r=0.63), triglycerides (r=0.56), and TNF-alpha (r=0.8), while no such correlations were observed in controls
- The Firmicutes/Bacteroidetes ratio in NAFLD patients correlated with increases in triglycerides (r=0.53), ALT (r=0.61), and VLDL (r=0.4)
- The study used quantitative real-time PCR to characterize gut microbiome composition in patients diagnosed with NAFLD by liver transient elastography

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