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Summary

ABERRANT P53 EXPRESSION IS THE STRONGEST PREDICTOR FOR NEOPLASTIC PROGRESSION IN PATIENTS WITH BARRETT'S ESOPHAGUS

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Oesophagus

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A prospective cohort study of 1031 Barrett's esophagus patients found that aberrant p53 expression is a stronger independent predictor of neoplastic progression than confirmed low-grade dysplasia.

KEY POINTS

- Aberrant p53 expression was strongly associated with neoplastic progression with a hazard ratio of 13.5 (95% CI 7.1-25.8) after adjusting for age, gender, segment length, esophagitis, and dysplasia grade.
- In non-dysplastic Barrett's esophagus patients, neoplastic progression risk was 2% with normal p53 expression versus 50% with aberrant p53 expression.
- In patients with confirmed low-grade dysplasia, neoplastic progression risk was 2% with normal p53 expression versus 43% with aberrant p53 expression.
- The study authors conclude that aberrant p53 expression may be a better parameter than confirmed low-grade dysplasia to identify patients who need close surveillance or could benefit from ablation therapy.
- This study is most relevant to gastroenterologists managing Barrett's esophagus patients and pathologists evaluating dysplasia.

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