

RELIABILITY OF THE UPDATED RUTGEERTS SCORE IN PATIENTS WITH CROHN'S DISEASE WITH AN ILEOCOLONIC ANASTOMOSIS

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UEG Week Berlin 2025

Poster

IBD

October 6, 2025

A validation study of 183 Crohn's disease patients demonstrates that the updated Rutgeerts score, which incorporates new anatomical sites introduced by contemporary surgical techniques, achieves substantial inter-rater and intra-rater reliability for assessing postoperative endoscopic recurrence.

KEY POINTS

- Eight expert gastroenterologists scored 92 ileocolonoscopy videos each after two-hour training, achieving an inter-observer agreement of 0.619 using Fleiss' kappa with linear weights and an intra-observer agreement of 0.831 using weighted Cohen's kappa.
- The updated Rutgeerts score addresses limitations of the original score by incorporating the ileal body and ileal inlet, anatomical locations not accounted for in the original scoring system, and specifies that lesions restricted to these sites can no longer be scored as i2a.
- Agreement varied by score level, with the strongest inter-observer agreement for i2a score (0.736) and the weakest for i1 score (0.357), while overall perfect agreement between readers was 60.4 percent.
- The study supports broader adaptation of the updated Rutgeerts score in clinical practice and research for evaluating postoperative Crohn's disease recurrence following ileocolonic resection.

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