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Summary

IS FIT FIT FOR DETECTION OF SMALL BOWEL PATHOLOGY? A PROSPECTIVE STUDY

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A prospective study of 79 patients with iron deficiency anaemia found that faecal immunochemical testing performed poorly as a predictor of small bowel pathology, with sensitivity and specificity both below 55%.

KEY POINTS

- Small bowel capsule endoscopy identified significant findings contributing to IDA in 44% of patients, most commonly angioectasia in 26%.
- FIT (threshold >10) showed sensitivity of 34.29%, specificity of 54.55%, positive predictive value of 37.5%, and negative predictive value of 51.08% for detecting small bowel pathology.
- The authors conclude that FIT is not a reliable biomarker for small bowel pathology in IDA patients and advocate for routine use of small bowel capsule endoscopy in this population.
- This single-centre study may be relevant to gastroenterologists and haematologists evaluating diagnostic pathways for iron deficiency anaemia.

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