

CORRESPONDENCE AMONG CAPSULE ENDOSCOPY FINDINGS AND MOLECULAR SIGNATURES IN ATROPHIC ENTEROPATHIES

Maurizio Vecchi

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A retrospective study of 82 patients found that capsule endoscopy detected disease extension in atrophic enteropathies correlates with disease severity and nutritional status, and may identify distal atrophy missed by conventional upper endoscopy.

KEY POINTS

- Among 82 patients who underwent capsule endoscopy for suspected atrophic enteropathy, 71 showed at least one pathologic finding, including atrophy in 62 patients, ulcers or erosions in 27, and stenosis in 4.
- Patients with greater than 33% small bowel atrophy at capsule endoscopy had significantly more severe disease ($p=0.0006$) and higher malnutrition scores ($p=0.0005$).
- Capsule endoscopy detected distal atrophy in 17 of 29 patients who had no atrophy on duodenal histology.
- The authors conclude that capsule endoscopy may have a potential role in disease characterization and staging, though further studies are needed given the retrospective design and sample size.
- This material may be most relevant to gastroenterologists managing patients with suspected or confirmed atrophic enteropathies.

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