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Summary

DETERMINANTS OF FLUID OVERLOAD IN THE EARLY PHASE OF ACUTE PANCREATITIS. A POST-HOC ANALYSIS OF THE WATERFALL TRIAL

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Post hoc analysis of the WATERFALL trial identifies age 70 years or older, baseline hypovolemia, and aggressive fluid therapy as independent predictors of fluid overload in acute pancreatitis.

KEY POINTS

- In the WATERFALL trial of 249 acute pancreatitis patients, fluid overload occurred in 20.5% of the aggressive fluid therapy group versus 6.3% of the moderate fluid therapy group.
- Multivariate analysis identified three independent predictors of fluid overload: treatment arm (aggressive versus moderate), age, and baseline hypovolemia.
- Age 70 years served as a cutoff point, with fluid overload occurring in 33% of patients 70 years or older compared to 7% in younger patients.
- The authors conclude that older patients with baseline hypovolemia receiving aggressive fluid therapy are at risk of fluid overload, and suggest moderate fluid therapy in elderly patients may avoid this complication.

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