

International Multidisciplinary Consensus Report on Definitions, Diagnostic Criteria, and Management of Fatty Pancreas: A Joint Statement Endorsed by EPC, APA, EASD, EASL, ESGAR, ESGE, ESP, ESPCG, ESPEN, ESPGHAN, IAP, JPS, KPBA, LAPSG, and UEG

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Standards and Guidelines

Pancreas

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An international multidisciplinary consensus report establishes 'fatty pancreas' as the standardized term for pancreatic fat accumulation and proposes diagnostic imaging criteria, while highlighting the limited evidence base and need for prospective validation.

KEY POINTS

- The report recommends 'fatty pancreas' as the unified standardized term to describe all forms of fat accumulation in the pancreas.
- Consensus diagnostic criteria based on radiological and endoscopic imaging modalities are proposed to enhance consistency in clinical assessment and support standardized research protocols.
- The report synthesizes current knowledge on associations with alcohol consumption, smoking, acute and chronic pancreatitis, pancreatic exocrine insufficiency, type 2 diabetes mellitus, surgical outcomes, and potential links to intraductal papillary mucinous neoplasms and pancreatic cancer.
- Many recommendations are based on expert consensus rather than strong empirical evidence due to limited high-quality prospective clinical data, requiring rigorous validation before adoption into routine practice.
- The report identifies critical research needs including clarifying causal relationships, validating diagnostic tools, and determining clinical relevance across diverse patient populations.

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