CHRONIC PANCREATITIS IN SOUTH EAST AND SOUTH ASIA (CPSEASA): IS IT DIFFERENT FROM WEST?

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Pancreas

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A multicenter database of 1212 chronic pancreatitis patients from South and Southeast Asia reveals demographic and clinical features distinct from Western cohorts, including younger age at presentation, higher prevalence of idiopathic etiology, and increased diabetes rates.

KEY POINTS

- Mean patient age was 37.2 years with 70.5% male, substantially younger than European (44 years) and USA (49 years) cohorts; idiopathic etiology was most common at 59.8%, followed by alcohol at 30.1%, contrasting with Western data where alcohol predominates.
- Painful chronic pancreatitis occurred in 84.24% of patients with episodic pain pattern (31.9%) slightly more common than continuous (29.2%); diabetes was present in 41.2% of patients, significantly higher than the 28-29% reported in Western cohorts.
- Dilatation of the main pancreatic duct was found in 76.6% and parenchymal calcification in 57.8% of patients; approximately 50% developed MPD calculus, 9% had MPD strictures, and 5% developed inflammatory pancreatic mass lesions.
- Among the 45.9% who underwent interventions, endotherapy with ESWL was performed in 37.4% and surgery in 7.4%; pain relapse after initial treatment occurred in 57.9%, while improvements in glycemic control and nutritional status were observed in 46% and 44.3% respectively.
- This ongoing study recruited patients from India, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Nepal, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, and Thailand between September 2020 and April 2023, representing one of the few large multicenter chronic pancreatitis cohorts from the region.

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