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Summary

BLEEDING LOCATION IN THE GASTROINTESTINAL TRACT: INTERIM ANALYSIS FROM THE BLITGIT STUDY

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In a three-centre study of 92 patients with iron deficiency anaemia, small bowel capsule endoscopy identified potentially bleeding lesions in 48.9% of patients, significantly higher than gastroscopy (27.1%) or colonoscopy (29.3%).

KEY POINTS

- Small bowel capsule endoscopy detected P1/P2 lesions (suspected or likely bleeding) in 48.9% of patients compared to 27.1% by gastroscopy and 29.3% by colonoscopy (p=0.003).
- The most common small bowel findings were angioectasia (23 patients), erosions (18 patients), and ulcers (16 patients).
- Colonoscopy identified three cases of colorectal cancer and two new diagnoses of ulcerative colitis.
- On multivariate analysis, age, haemoglobin level, symptoms, and medication did not correlate with pathology findings.
- The authors suggest that small bowel examination should be considered routinely in iron deficiency anaemia investigation.

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