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Summary

ASSOCIATION OF SLING-FIBER PRESERVATION POEM AND POST-POEM GERD SYMPTOMS: A NORTH AMERICAN SINGLE-CENTER RETROSPECTIVE STUDY

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A Canadian retrospective study of 148 achalasia patients found that sling-fiber preservation during peroral endoscopic myotomy significantly reduced post-procedure GERD symptoms compared to conventional technique (22% versus 41%, P=0.033) without compromising safety or efficacy.

KEY POINTS

- Sling-fiber preservation POEM resulted in significantly lower GERD symptom rates at follow-up (22.4% versus 41.3%, P=0.033) compared to conventional POEM, despite requiring longer gastric myotomy (2.2 cm versus 1.6 cm, P<0.001).
- The two techniques showed similar safety profiles, with adverse event rates of 21.6% for sling-fiber preservation versus 24.3% for conventional POEM (P=0.85), and comparable clinical success rates of 87.9% versus 84.1% (P=0.60) based on Eckardt scores.
- Procedure times and PPI usage at follow-up were similar between groups, with no significant differences observed.
- This retrospective single-center study from October 2017 to January 2023 included 148 POEM cases at a Canadian therapeutic endoscopy referral center, representing the first report of this sling-fiber preservation technique in a western population.

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