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Summary

Complications in endoscopy with Srisha Hebbar Part 1

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Podcast Episode

Endoscopy

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Consultant gastroenterologist Srisha Hebbar discusses the multifaceted nature of endoscopic complications, emphasising preparation, communication, and appropriate consent as key strategies for managing adverse events and reducing complaints.

KEY POINTS

- Complications in endoscopy extend beyond bleeding and perforation to include missed lesions, delayed bookings, and post-procedure cancers, with post-colonoscopy cancer rate now a key performance indicator in UK units.
- The speakers argue that preparation is essential for managing complications, including pre-procedure team briefing, having accessories ready, and treating every procedure as having potential for complications.
- Hebbar states that most delayed complications are actually under-recognised complications at the time of the procedure, often due to optimism bias from both endoscopist and patient.
- The guest emphasises that complaints and litigation typically arise from lack of communication rather than the complication itself, advocating for transparency, face-to-face meetings with patients, and apology when complications occur.
- Hebbar argues that appropriate consent requires that the procedure indication be sound, and that consent should be proportionate to the patient's individual situation rather than simply listing all possible complications.

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