COMPARISONS BETWEEN ENDOSCOPIC CLOSURE TECHNIQUES FOR IATROGENIC DEFECTS: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW AND META-ANALYSIS

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A systematic review and meta-analysis of 744 patients across eight studies found that self-expandable metal stents are inferior to alternative endoscopic closure methods for iatrogenic gastrointestinal defects, with lower success rates and higher complication rates.

KEY POINTS

- Over-the-scope clips achieved significantly higher clinical success than self-expandable metal stents for defect closure (OR: 2.07, 95%CI: 1.12-3.85, p=0.02) with reduced heterogeneity.
- Self-expandable metal stents resulted in significantly more adverse events than alternatives (OR: 13.5, 95%CI: 4.57-37.28, p<0.001), with stent migration being the most common complication (81 cases, 26.1%).
- Through-the-scope clips and over-the-scope clips demonstrated equivalent efficacy and safety for successful defect closure (OR: 0.07, 95%CI: 0.03-0.16, p=0.59).
- The comparison between self-expandable metal stents and endoscopic vacuum therapy did not reach statistical significance (OR: 0.42, 95%CI: 0.005-3.19, p=0.4).
- This meta-analysis addresses limitations of current guidelines which are based on low-quality indirect comparisons and may inform endoscopists managing iatrogenic gastrointestinal perforations or leaks.

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