

APPLICATION OF THE NUTRITIONAL RISK INDEX IN NUTRITIONAL ASSESSMENT OF PATIENTS WITH CROHN'S DISEASE

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UEG Week Copenhagen 2023

Poster

IBD

October 15, 2023

A retrospective single-center study of 50 Crohn disease patients found that 78% had mild to severe malnutrition risk by Nutritional Risk Index, with severe malnutrition predicting intra-abdominal abscess development.

KEY POINTS

- Of 50 Crohn disease patients assessed, 22% had normal nutritional status, 54% had mild-moderate malnutrition risk, and 24% had severe malnutrition based on Nutritional Risk Index at first presentation
- On multivariate analysis, severe malnutrition risk predicted development of intra-abdominal abscess with an odds ratio of 10.5 (95% CI 2.22-49.51, $p=0.003$)
- Univariate analysis showed severe malnutrition associated with anemia, thrombocytosis, hypocholesterolemia, radiologic sarcopenia, extensive ileal involvement over 50 cm, intra-abdominal collection, and thromboembolic complications
- In surgical patients, postoperative complications and extensive small bowel resection were associated with severe malnutrition
- The authors conclude that NRI is a simple validated tool for identifying malnutrition risk in Crohn disease patients to guide nutritional support

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