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Summary

SEVERE COVID-19 IS ASSOCIATED WITH RISK OF LOWER GASTROINTESTINAL BLEEDING

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Colorectal

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A multicenter Japanese retrospective cohort study of 12,044 hospitalized COVID-19 patients found that disease severity was significantly associated with gastrointestinal bleeding risk, particularly lower gastrointestinal bleeding.

KEY POINTS

- Overall gastrointestinal bleeding occurred in 0.9% of patients, with upper bleeding in 0.5% and lower bleeding in 0.4%.
- Critical COVID-19 patients had 22-fold higher odds of gastrointestinal bleeding compared to not severe patients, while severe patients had 2.8-fold higher odds.
- Lower gastrointestinal bleeding risk was significantly elevated in both severe (OR 6.0) and critical (OR 35.5) patients, whereas upper gastrointestinal bleeding risk was elevated only in critical patients (OR 16.9).
- No significant association was found between post-hospitalization anticoagulation and gastrointestinal bleeding in the severe COVID-19 group.
- This material is most relevant to clinicians managing hospitalized COVID-19 patients and those involved in thromboprophylaxis decision-making.

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