PATTERNS OF FATTY INFILTRATION IN PANCREAS ON ENDOSCOPIC ULTRASOUND: A NOVEL CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

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A retrospective study of 238 patients proposes a novel three-type classification system for fatty pancreas on endoscopic ultrasound based on patterns of diffuse echogenicity and fatty sparing.

KEY POINTS

- The classification divides fatty pancreas into Type I (diffuse echogenicity with discrete hypoechoic fatty sparing areas), Type II (diffuse echogenicity without fatty sparing areas, most common at 44.1%), and Type III (diffuse echogenicity extending beyond pancreatic border with cotton candy appearance, 29.8%).
- The study included 238 patients with mean age 57.45 years, mean BMI 31.27 kg/m^2, 69.7% female, with concurrent diabetes in 26.9% and fatty liver in 24.7%.
- No statistically significant differences were found between the three types in age, gender, tobacco or alcohol use, or incidence of diabetes, fatty liver, or exocrine pancreatic insufficiency.
- The authors state that larger prospective trials are needed to validate this classification system and assess its clinical implications.
- This material is relevant for endosonographers and gastroenterologists performing or interpreting endoscopic ultrasound examinations of the pancreas.

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