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Summary

INCREASED RISK OF GASTROINTESTINAL CANCERS IN COELIAC DISEASE: A NATIONWIDE COHORT STUDY

Stanislas Chaussade

UEG Week Copenhagen 2023 | Poster

Small Intestine & Nutrition

October 15, 2023

A French nationwide cohort study of 27,244 coeliac disease patients found increased risks of multiple gastrointestinal cancers beyond the well-known lymphoma and small bowel cancer associations, with further elevation of risk in those with concurrent inflammatory or autoimmune digestive conditions.

KEY POINTS

- Coeliac patients had substantially increased risk of small bowel cancer (OR=13.9), non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (OR=4.1), and 104 cases of Enteropathy Associated T cell Lymphoma versus none in matched controls.
- Increased risks were also observed for pancreatic cancer (OR=2.4), colonic cancer (OR=1.7), esophageal cancer (OR=1.7), and gastric cancer (OR=1.5), but not for rectal cancer or hepatocellular carcinoma.
- Coeliac patients showed elevated risks of pernicious anaemia (OR=11.3), microscopic colitis (OR=4.5), Crohn's disease (OR=4.2), ulcerative colitis (OR=3.3), and non-alcoholic chronic pancreatitis (OR=1.7).
- When coeliac patients had concurrent pernicious anaemia, non-alcoholic chronic pancreatitis, or microscopic colitis, their risks of gastric, pancreatic, and colonic cancers respectively were further increased.
- The authors conclude these findings argue for early and regular screening of digestive cancers and inflammatory or autoimmune digestive diseases in coeliac patients.

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