SUBJECTIVE GLOBAL ASSESSMENT CAN BE A PREDICTOR OF LONG HOSPITAL STAYS IN ELDERLY BLEEDING PEPTIC ULCER PATIENTS

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Subjective global assessment (SGA) was the only independent predictor of prolonged hospitalization in elderly patients with bleeding peptic ulcer in a retrospective study of 111 patients aged 66 years or older.

KEY POINTS

- In multivariate analysis, SGA was significantly associated with longer hospital stays (odds ratio 0.69, 95% CI 0.55-0.87, p=0.0014), while albumin level and body mass index were not independent predictors.
- The study included 111 elderly bleeding peptic ulcer patients divided into short-term (63 patients, median 7 days) and long-term (48 patients, median 15 days) hospitalization groups based on a 9-day median cutoff.
- In univariate analysis, older age, albumin level, and SGA were all significantly associated with prolonged hospital stays, but only SGA remained significant in multivariate modeling.
- SGA is a simple nutritional assessment tool performed by interview and physical examination that was calculated by trained nurses on the first day of admission.
- This study may be relevant for clinicians caring for elderly patients with bleeding peptic ulcer who seek to identify those at risk for prolonged hospitalization.

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