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Summary

PREVALENCE OF MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS IS NOT HIGHER IN INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE POPULATION: A CASE CONTROL STUDY

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IBD

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A retrospective study of 5,739 IBD patients found MS prevalence of 0.24%, similar to the 0.18% general population prevalence in northern Italy, though female sex was significantly overrepresented among IBD patients with MS.

KEY POINTS

- Among 5,739 IBD patients followed between 1978 and 2022, 14 had MS (0.24% prevalence) compared to 0.18% in the northern Italian general population (P = 0.24).
- Female sex was significantly overrepresented in the MS group: 85.7% of IBD patients with MS were female versus 46.2% in controls (P = 0.004).
- At the time of MS diagnosis, IBD patients with MS were significantly less likely to be on mesalazine (41.7% vs 92.7%, P < 0.0001) or anti-TNF therapy (0% vs 26.6%, P = 0.03).
- Twenty-year survival probability was 82.1% for IBD patients with MS versus 98.4% for IBD patients without MS (P = 0.02).

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