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Summary

UTILITY OF A NEW ENDOSCOPIC SCRAPER FOR BILIARY STRICTURES

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A retrospective study of 264 biliary stricture cases found that a new scraping device (Trefle) achieved 61% sensitivity compared to 55% for conventional cytology and biopsy, with combined use reaching 89% sensitivity.

KEY POINTS

- The Trefle device consists of looped metallic wires to scrape and aspirate tissue along with bile juice for diagnosis of biliary strictures.
- In 264 cases studied between 2012 and 2021, the new device demonstrated 61% sensitivity versus 55% for conventional methods, and combining the device with biopsy increased sensitivity to 89%.
- For biliary strictures caused by pancreatic cancer specifically, the new device achieved 49% sensitivity compared to 39% for conventional cytology and biopsy.
- The study authors suggest the new device was more useful than conventional methods for pathological diagnosis of biliary strictures, particularly those caused by pancreatic cancer.

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