

New classification of sphincter of Oddi dysfunction

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A research team from China proposed a new classification system for sphincter of Oddi dysfunction (SOD) based on clinical data of patients. The new classification system has significant advantages for guiding the diagnosis and treatment of SOD patients, thus improving the clinical treatment of SOD.

Sphincter of Oddi dysfunction (SOD) is a pathological syndrome that is usually classified into the biliary type or the pancreatic type according to the Milwaukee criteria. However, this classification has some drawbacks in clinical practice, some of which result in flawed classification and failure to properly guide [diagnosis](#) and treatment.

A research article published on January 21, 2011 in the [World Journal of Gastroenterology](#) addresses this question. The authors proposed a new classification system for SOD according to anatomy, symptoms, endoscope tests and radiological imaging, i.e. SOD is divided into four types instead of two types: the biliary-type, the pancreatic-type, the double-duct type and the biliary-pancreatic reflux type. The new classification demonstrates significant advantages for guiding the diagnosis and treatment of SOD patients in China, as compared with the conventional Milwaukee criteria.

Nonetheless, further investigations on the applicability of this quaternary [classification system](#) to patients in other regions are needed.

More information: Gong JQ, Ren JD, Tian FZ, Jiang R, Tang LJ,

Pang Y. Management of patients with sphincter of Oddi dysfunction based on a new classification. World J Gastroenterol 2011; 17(3): 385-390. www.wjgnet.com/1007-9327/full/v17/i3/385.htm

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