

Italian Guidelines for the Management of Enteral and Urinary Stomas

To the Editor – Stoma management represents the major issue for patients undergoing ostomy surgery and for their healthcare providers. For this reason, a high quality of surgery and specific assistance is mandatory during the pre-operative and postoperative periods to guarantee a good level of quality of life in stoma patients. We appreciated the article by Hendren et al published in 2015, in which the authors presented guidelines for stoma management elaborated by the Clinical Practice Guidelines Committee of the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons. These guidelines focused on the surgical care of adult intestinal ostomy patients during the preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative periods, with a final section dedicated to stoma care. On the basis of this experience, in Italy we recently launched the Multidisciplinary Italian Study Group for Stomas (MISSTO), a multisocietary and multidisciplinary research group including components of the main Italian societies of surgeons and nurse and patient associations focused on stoma management and care. The aim of this group is to elaborate guidelines for practice management of enteral and urinary ostomies, from the preoperative phase to the postoperative period, including stoma care. Keeping in mind the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons guidelines as a main reference for our work, our aim is to adapt these guidelines at the Italian reality, according to the best recent evidence from literature.

REFERENCE

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