

# The Diagnostic Yield of Small-Bowel Capsule Endoscopy in Israel

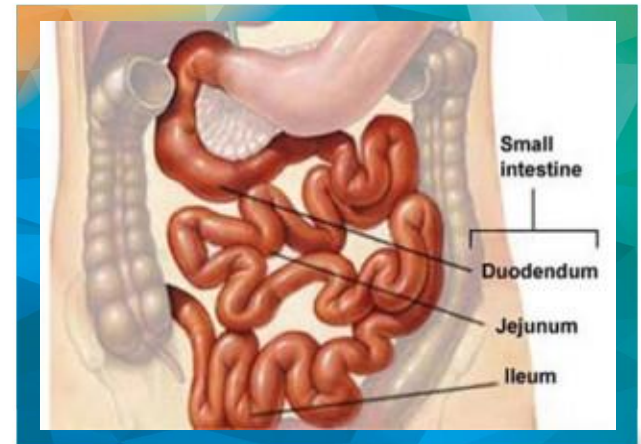
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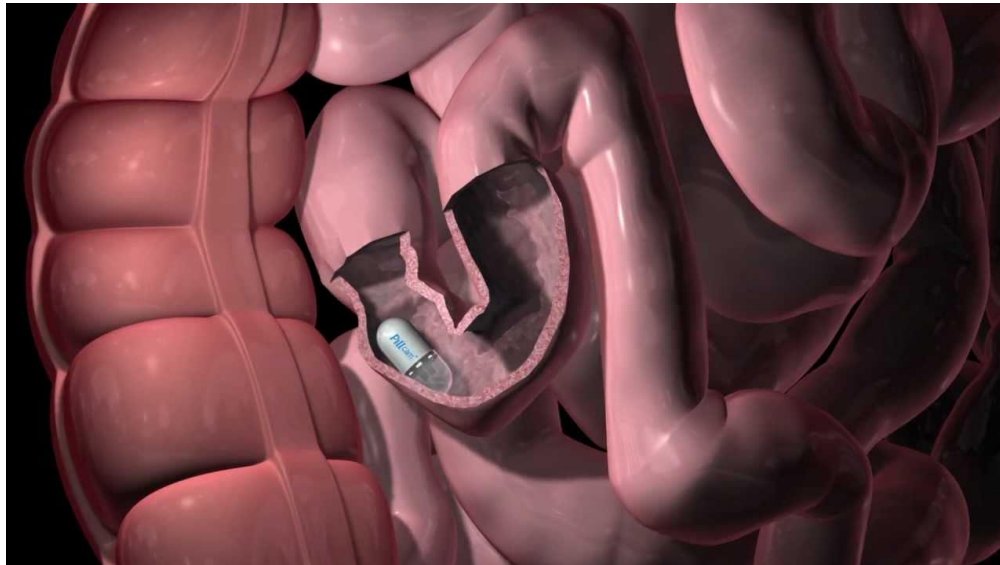


# Background

- Small bowel capsule endoscopy (SBCE) is an innovative tool, enabling direct visualization of previously inaccessible areas of the digestive tract.
- The primary indications for SBCE are:
  - Obscure gastro-intestinal bleeding
  - Unexplained iron deficiency anemia
  - Suspected Crohn's disease
  - Small bowel tumors
  - NSAID enteropathy
- Contraindications include bowel obstruction, dysphagia, extensive diverticulosis, pregnancy, and implanted electromedical devices.



- For the SBCE the diagnostic yield has been reported and ranges from 32-86.8%.
- The wide range is attributable to different definitions of positive findings, and the different indications for the examination.



# Objective



- In Israel, all citizens are covered by national health insurance, and provided medications and medical technologies according to an annually-updated “health basket”.
- Expensive medications and technologies are subject to prior approval by the HMO.
- SBCE was included in the national health basket several years ago. The test is approved for 2 main indications:
  - Obscure gastrointestinal bleeding (following gastroscopy, colonoscopy and CTE).
  - Suspected IBD.
- This study proposes to verify the diagnostic yield of this test in the local patient population, and identify those most likely to benefit from it, in order to better allocate government funds.

# Methods

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- Study design: a retrospective cohort study based on the Clalit Health Services database.
- Study population: 500 patients from Sharon Shomron district of Clalit Health Services who underwent the test during the last 5 years.
- Statistics: data will be analyzed using Chi- square and T-test.

