OC-008

**SURGERY FOR BENIGN COLORECTAL POLYPS IN
ENGLAND – TRENDS AND OUTCOMES FROM 1997 TO
2007**

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Introduction Currently, there is no national evaluation of the potential impact that advances in endoscopic techniques and therapy have had in England.¹ This study examines the Hospital Episode Statistics (HES) database to assess the trend in patients that have required a surgical polypectomy after at least one attempted therapeutic endoscopy for a diagnosis of a benign colorectal polyp over a 10-year period.

Methods All elective patients having undergone a surgical procedure for a benign colorectal polyp between 1 January 1997 and 31 December 2007 in English NHS units were identified from HES after cleaning and formatting the dataset.

Results Over the 10-year period, 334 753 polypectomy procedures were performed in 174 English NHS Trusts. Of these 18,716 (5.59%) required a surgical procedure for excision of a benign polyp. Over the study period, there was no significant difference in the number of surgical procedures for the removal of benign polyps performed annually (1560 in 1997 to 1601 in 2007) ($p < 0.433$). Trends in 28-day re-admission (6.15% > 11.36%), length of stay (11.1–14.26 days) and mortality rates (1.11% > 3.21%) did not change significantly over the study years ($p = 0.440, 0.232, 0.242$, respectively).

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Year	Readmission rate (%)	Mortality rate (%)	Average length of stay (days)	Number of procedures
1997	7.12	2.12	13	1560
1998	7.54	1.94	13.24	1750
2000	7.93	2.75	13.67	1817
2001	7.3	2.22	14.26	1753
2003	8.36	3.21	13.55	1806
2004	8.03	2.47	13.65	1619
2005	10.83	2.56	13.74	1560
2006	11.36	1.98	12.05	1567
2007	10.49	1.12	11.12	1601

Conclusion This analysis is the first to examine the HES database for national trends in surgical polypectomy for benign polyps. Nationally, there was no annual difference in the numbers of patients requiring surgical procedures for the removal of benign polyps. This suggests that a small but consistent proportion of all benign polyps has required surgical removal despite advancements in endoscopic techniques or that the uptake of such techniques has been limited, despite regional centres of excellence.

Competing interests None.

Keywords benign colorectal polyps, surgery, trends.

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