OUTCOMES OF INADEQUATE BOWEL PREPARATION COLONOSCOPY: SINGLE-CENTRE RETROSPECTIVE ANALYSIS

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Introduction Quality in colonoscopy is underpinned by the quality of bowel preparation, however, data on real-world management following inadequate bowel preparation remain sparse. We aimed to audit the rates and outcomes of inadequate bowel preparation on colonoscopy, including subsequent investigations and rates of post-colonoscopy colorectal cancer (PCCRC).

Methods In this single-centre audit, all colonoscopies performed in 2015 were identified from an endoscopy reporting database. Patients with colonic resection were excluded. Bowel preparation was measured using the Aronchick scale and considered inadequate if reported as poor (<90% mucosal visualisation) despite washing. Retrospective follow-up was performed through electronic healthcare records with primary care linkage to identify subsequent investigations and rates of 3 yr-PCCRC. Subsequent investigation was defined as a repeat colonoscopy or relevant imaging within 6 months of an index procedure with inadequate preparation. Multivariable binary logistic regression was undertaken to identify predictors of subsequent investigation. Comparisons were performed at endoscopist-level and between adequate and inadequate bowel preparation groups using chi-square and Mann-Whitney tests.

Results Of 2305 procedures recorded over the study period, inadequate preparation was indicated in 235 (10.2%). This cohort was associated with lower caecal intubation rates (80.7% vs. 92.3%, P<0.001), higher polyp detection rates (47.7% vs 40.9%, P=0.04) but no differences in median age (65 vs. 64, P=0.190) or polyp resection rates (37.0% vs. 34.8%, P=0.484). Subsequent investigations were performed in 63 patients (26.8%), comprising repeat colonoscopy (N=31), CT imaging (N=31) and barium enema (N=1). Of the 18 endoscopists identified with >20 procedures in 2015, the rates of inadequate preparation ranged between endoscopists (0%-34.2%; P=0.001), although there was no significant difference in the practice of subsequent investigation (range 0–100%, P=0.511) [Abstract PTU110 figure 1]. On multivariable analysis, factors independently associated with subsequent investigations included: non-completion colonoscopy (OR 7.6, P<0.001), any abnormal diagnosis (OR 2.4, P=0.034), and younger age (P=0.040). No cases of 3 yr-PCCRC were identified within the cohort.

Conclusion Although the outcome of inadequate bowel preparation is an established quality metric in colonoscopy, its interpretation appears to vary between endoscopists, with the practice of instigating subsequent investigations also varying at procedural and patient level. Whilst our data should prompt reflection by local and national quality assurance groups, more robust studies are required to determine the impact of inadequate bowel preparation on patient outcomes such as PCCRC.

DOES A 2 WEEK BREAK FROM COLONOSCOPY PRACTICE IMPACT ON PERFORMANCE?

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Introduction Although breaks in colonoscopy practice have been shown to adversely affect trainee performance,1 this has not been studied in independent endoscopists. We aimed to evaluate the impact of a ≥2wk break in colonoscopy on the completion metrics of independent practitioners.

Methods We performed a retrospective analysis of electronic colonoscopy databases in six NHS Trusts within East Midlands, West Midlands and South Yorkshire. Procedures between 2016–2018 were extracted by endoscopist identifier and in time order. A break was defined as a 14d+ interval between procedures. For each break, 20 pre and 20 post break procedures were identified. Breaks were excluded if a ≥2wk interval occurred within the 20 pre-break procedures, and if any of the 20 pre-break procedures occurred within 14d of another break or overlapped with any post-break procedures. Study outcomes included: 1) the Performance Indicator of Colonic Intubation (PICI),2 a composite endpoint integrating completion, sedation and discomfort metrics, and 2) the unadjusted caecal intubation rate (CIR). Pairwise comparisons between pre and post break data were made for pooled data and by endoscopist using Wilcoxon signed rank tests.

Results 352 breaks undertaken by 113 endoscopists were eligible for analysis, comprising 14,080 procedures. The median break interval was 18d (IQR 14–24). Baseline comparisons of the pre and post groups revealed no significant differences in age, gender or proportion of Bowel Cancer Screening cases. Between pre and post break periods, mean PICI fell from 82.1% to 80.0% (P=0.001) and mean CIR from 93.8% to 92.5% (P=0.003). Trends in PICI with 10-procedure moving averages relative to the break (Abstract PTU111 figure 1) did not suggest reversion to baseline rates after 20 post-break procedures. At endoscopist-level, breaks were associated with a small but significant reductions in median PICI (86.7% to 85.0%, P<0.001) and CIR (95.0% to 92.5%, P=0.004), with 58.4% of endoscopists demonstrating a decrement in PICI. There was no significant correlation between the