Abstracts

**PTU-47**

THE ROLE OF CROSS-SECTIONAL IMAGING IN THE MANAGEMENT OF PATIENTS WITH COMPLEX COLORECTAL POLyps

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**Introduction**

Current guidelines state patients diagnosed with colorectal cancer should undergo computed tomography scanning of chest, abdomen, and pelvis (CT CAP) for staging, plus MRI of the pelvis and rectum for rectal cancers. Requests for scans are usually made at endoscopy when malignancy is suspected. Colorectal cancer is usually an obvious diagnosis; however, large colorectal polyps also harbour an increased risk of malignancy. There are currently no firm guidelines as to when we should perform radiological staging investigations following identification of a non-overtly malignant colorectal polyp. Currently, common practice is that patients who are found to have a colorectal polyp felt to harbour a high risk of covert cancer at endoscopic assessment, have CT CAP +/- MRI requested at the time of endoscopy, in case a cancer is eventually histologically confirmed. This practice is reinforced by tight timelines of cancer (two week wait) pathways.

Performing radiological investigation is not without risk. CT holds risks of ionising radiation exposure and should only be used in patients who would benefit from the information the investigation provides. It is important that resources such as CT and MRI are used efficiently.

**Methods**

The aim of this retrospective review was to analyse the use of cross-sectional imaging following a diagnosis of complex colorectal polyp to determine if results influenced clinical decision-making and onward patient management. All cases discussed at the complex polyp MDT within North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Trust, since its inception in January 2020 were included.

Patients were identified and reviewed by accessing electronic clinical notes and results software. Information on polyp assessment at time of endoscopy was reviewed, including any increased cancer risk as assessed by the endoscopist. Electronic records were accessed by two clinicians independently, who reviewed post polypectomy histology to determine if the radiological investigation had assisted and/or altered the patient’s management.

**Results**

From 23rd January 2020 to 11th February 2021, 151 cases were discussed. Repeat discussions were excluded. Radiological imaging was performed in 47; 11 were excluded as the investigation was not in relation to the complex polyp.

36 records were analysed as part of this review; polyp diameter ranged from 1 to 7 cm. Radiological investigations consisted of CT CAP only (n=27), CT CAP with MRI (n=7) and MRI only (n=2). In 13/36 cases, imaging did not alter subsequent management of the patient; in these cases, endoscopic image review at the complex polyp MDT meeting was the key influencer on treatment options. In 23/36 cases, cross sectional imaging did, at least partially, inform clinical management of the patient; however, in only 2 of these cases imaging altered the overall management plan.

**Conclusions**

From this retrospective review, we identified that in patients with complex colorectal polyps, radiological assessment is secondary to endoscopic assessment in treatment decision making. High-risk polyp features can be identified from good quality endoscopic assessment with image enhancement and magnification. Cross sectional imaging should be requested in cases with overt evidence of malignancy for the purposes of staging. Good endoscopic photo documentation of any lesion is key to facilitate MDT discussion in the planning of surgical vs endoscopic resection to ensure patients undergo the right procedure first time.

**PTU-48**

OUTCOMES OF OESOPHAGO-GASTRO-DUODENOSCOPY (OGD) IN THE INVESTIGATION OF INPATIENTS WITH ANAEMIA: A RETROSPECTIVE COHORT STUDY

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**Introduction**

Iron deficiency anaemia (IDA) is a common diagnosis affecting 2-5% of adult men and post-menopausal women. Referrals for inpatient investigation of IDA represent a significant workload burden. However, performing inpatient endoscopy can delay discharge and carries a well reported morbidity and mortality. We felt a significant proportion of these investigations had low yield and therefore, we undertook a study to determine the outcomes of inpatient OGDs and if there were any factors that were associated with an increased likelihood of positive findings.

**Methods**

This was a single-centre retrospective cohort study. Data on sequential patients who had an inpatient OGD over a three-year period was collected. Patients were excluded from the study if they had evidence of overt GI haemorrhage or haemodynamic instability. Multivariate logistic regression used to analyse the primary outcomes and the covariates. The primary outcome of the study was whether patients had a positive finding on OGD that may have contributed to their anaemia as defined by the British Society of Gastroenterology (BSG) guidelines (1). The variables studied were age, referring specialty and prescription of antiplatelets or anticoagulants prior to OGD. Secondary outcomes included whether patients’ management was changed by having an inpatient OGD.

**Results**

147 patients had inpatient OGDs for IDA, median age of 69 (27-92). Referrals were mainly made by Cardiology (37.9%) and Renal (35.2%) physicians. 83 patients were taking one or more antiplatelet medications and 25 were taking anticoagulants, of which 13 were on both.

The different OGD findings, and numbers of each are highlighted in the table below. Only 22 (15%) had one or more possible causes for IDA identified, of which 11 (7.5%) resulted in change of their clinical management; 1 had therapy during the procedure (banding), 4 had a previously unknown malignancy detected, 4 had their anti-platelet medication either stopped or not started, one was commenced on a b-blocker for varices, another was started on the Hong-Kong PPI infusion protocol.

**Conclusions**

Multivariate logistic regression analysis was carried out on the data using R v. 4.0.2. The analysis of the independent variables (age [p = 0.3912], anticoagulation [p = 0.4788], antiplatelet [p=0.5829] and referring specialty) showed no statistically significant predictive value. Therefore, none of the above factors could be used to determine the likelihood of inpatient OGD changing management.

Limited by the retrospective nature of this study, the findings show only a small proportion of inpatient OGDs (15%) find a potential cause of IDA. In addition to this, the
An outpatient. We hope to conduct a further, larger scale study to examine this further.

BIBLIOGRAPHY


PTU-48 WHAT’S IN A NAME? THE GLOBAL BURDEN OF POSTCOLONOSCOPY COLORECTAL CANCER USING WEO TERMINOLOGY

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Introduction Population-based screening and surveillance with colonoscopic removal of premalignant lesions reduces colorectal cancer (CRC) incidence and mortality. However, up to 9% of patients presented with symptomatic cancers despite undergoing negative colonoscopies in the three years preceding diagnosis and before the next recommended examination.

‘Postcolonoscopy’ CRCs (PCCRCs) are devastating for patients, providers, and healthcare systems, and have been proposed as a key performance metric for colonoscopy quality assurance programs. Previously there was no standardised definition for PCCRC and reported rates varied depending on terminology and calculation methods used. The World Endoscopy Organisation (WEO) recently suggested a standardised PCCRC definition and rate calculation methods.

Our aim was to assess PCCRC burden using WEO methods and update prevalence estimates reported in a previous meta-analysis. We explored causes of heterogeneity and reviewed changes in prevalence over time.

Methods A systematic literature search identified population-based studies reporting PCCRC prevalence. We estimated pooled prevalence compared with detected CRCs and investigated between-study sources of heterogeneity using subgroup and sensitivity analyses.

Results Six population-based studies reporting on 23,018 PCCRCs were included. Pooled prevalence was 8.2% (95% CI = 7.3-9.0%) - a twofold increase compared to the previously published pooled prevalence (Am J Gastroenterol 2014; 109:1375). Considerable heterogeneity was observed.

In subgroup analyses, proximal PCCRC prevalence was higher than distal PCCRC (10.2%, 95% CI=8.7-11.7%; vs. 6.3%, 95% CI=5.6-6.9%, respectively). This partially accounted for observed heterogeneity (p<0.01). Geography did not contribute to differences in PCCRC.

Using WEO methodology pooled PCCRC prevalence was 8.2% (95% CI=6.9-9.4%) and heterogeneity remained high.

Six studies reported PCCRC rates over time. Three showed a decrease in PCCRC prevalence, while three showed no significant temporal changes.

Conclusions Overall PCCRC pooled prevalence was 8.2%; however, significant heterogeneity existed between studies. Time trend analyses within individual studies showed decreased or unchanged rates. Proximal PCCRC prevalence was significantly greater than distal PCCRC. Despite application of WEO methodology, comparing PCCRC rates between populations may be challenging at present due to heterogeneity related to patient selection criteria and endoscopist factors e.g. including higher risk patients (e.g. inflammatory bowel disease), endoscopist experience, or the presence of a CRC screening programme. Standardisation of such factors as well as PCCRC terminology may facilitate comparison of endoscopy service performance between centres.

PTU-50 WATCH AND WAIT, A RATIONAL MANAGEMENT FOR LOWER GASTROINTESTINAL BLEEDING IN THE ELDERLY?

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Introduction Many patients presenting to hospital with lower gastrointestinal bleeding (LGIB) are elderly and co-morbid. British Society of Gastroenterology (BSG) guidelines recommend LGI endoscopy for all patients admitted with LGIB. As the majority of LGIB ceases spontaneously and risks of endoscopy increase with patient age, a ‘watch and wait’ management approach may be appropriate for older patients.

Methods Patients aged ≥75 years presenting with LGIB to seven hospital trusts from June 1st– September 1st 2019 were included. Data on presentation, management and outcomes were recorded, then compared to current BSG guidelines.

Results 127 patients were included. 47% were male with a mean age 84 (range 75-96), 73.2% of patients had ≥2 listed co-morbidities. Mean Shock Index (SI) on presentation was 0.69, with a SI >1 being rare (7.0%) and reduced to 2.4% following resuscitation. Of stable patients (SI<1), 94.3% were classified as having a major bleed (Oakland Score >8). 96.1% of presenting patients were admitted, while 3.9% were discharged. The mean duration of LGIB prior to presentation was 79 minutes. 42.6% of patients were discharged home without further action, 26.3% were discharged home with LGI endoscopy, 17.3% were discharged with a repeat LGI endoscopy, and 14.9% were referred for inpatient management. Inpatient management is rarely altered by performing the OGD, suggesting that many of these examinations could be done in the outpatient setting or postponed until management of the main clinical condition has finished. No independent predictors of positive OGD findings were identified in this study, which may again support a drive to investigate IDA as an outpatient. We hope to conduct a further, larger scale study to examine this further.

BIBLIOGRAPHY