

# What's New in Colon Cancer Screening & How to Do High Quality Colonoscopy?

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**In the US, 1 in 20 People will be  
Diagnosed with Colorectal Cancer**



# CONSENSUS GUIDELINE

## Colorectal Cancer Screening: Recommendations for Physicians and Patients From the U.S. Multi-Society Task Force on Colorectal Cancer



Douglas K. Rex,<sup>1</sup> C. Richard Boland,<sup>2</sup> Jason A. Dominitz,<sup>3</sup> Francis M. Giardiello,<sup>4</sup> David A. Johnson,<sup>5</sup> Tonya Kaltenbach,<sup>6</sup> Theodore R. Levin,<sup>7</sup> David Lieberman,<sup>8</sup> and Douglas J. Robertson<sup>9</sup>

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This document updates the colorectal cancer (CRC) screening recommendations of the U.S. Multi-Society Task Force of Colorectal Cancer (MSTF), which represents the American College of Gastroenterology, the American Gastroenterological Association, and The American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy. CRC screening tests are ranked in 3 tiers based on performance features, costs, and practical considerations. The first-tier tests are colonoscopy every 10 years and annual fecal immunochemical test (FIT). Colonoscopy and FIT are recommended as the cornerstones of screening regardless of how screening is offered. Thus, in a sequential approach based on colonoscopy offered first, FIT should be offered to patients who decline colonoscopy. Colonoscopy and FIT are recommended as tests of choice when multiple options are presented as alternatives. A risk-stratified approach is also appropriate, with FIT screening in populations with an estimated low prevalence of advanced neoplasia and colonoscopy screening in high prevalence populations. The second-tier tests include CT colonography every 5 years, the FIT–fecal DNA test every 3 years, and flexible sigmoidoscopy every 5 to 10 years. These tests are appropriate screening tests, but each has disadvantages relative to the tier 1 tests. Because of limited evidence and current obstacles to use, capsule colonoscopy every 5 years is a third-tier test. We suggest that the Septin9 serum assay (Epigenomics, Seattle, Wash) not be used for screening. Screening should begin at age 50 years in average-risk persons, except in African Americans in whom limited evidence supports screening at 45 years. CRC incidence is rising in persons under age 50, and thorough diagnostic evaluation of young persons with suspected colorectal bleeding is recommended. Discontinuation of screening should be considered when persons up to date with screening, who have prior negative screening (particularly colonoscopy), reach age 75 or have <10 years of life expectancy. Persons without prior screening should be considered for screening up to age 85, depending on age and comorbidities. Persons with a family history of CRC or a documented advanced adenoma in a first-degree relative age <60 years or 2 first-degree relatives with these findings at any age are recommended to undergo screening by colonoscopy every 5 years, beginning 10 years before the age at

diagnosis of the youngest affected relative or age 40, whichever is earlier. Persons with a single first-degree relative diagnosed at ≥60 years with CRC or an advanced adenoma can be offered average-risk screening options beginning at age 40 years.

Colorectal cancer (CRC) screening is the process of detecting early-stage CRCs and precancerous lesions in asymptomatic people with no prior history of cancer or precancerous lesions. The U.S. Multi-Society Task Force of Colorectal Cancer (MSTF) is a panel of expert gastroenterologists representing the American College of Gastroenterology, the American Gastroenterological Association, and the American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy. The MSTF, like others, has long endorsed systematic offers of CRC screening to average-risk persons (persons without a high-risk family history of colorectal neoplasia) beginning at age 50 years, with general evidence supporting screening reviewed in previous publications.<sup>1</sup> This publication updates the screening recommendations of the MSTF for screening in average-risk persons.<sup>1</sup>

Screening differs from surveillance. Surveillance refers to the interval use of colonoscopy in patients with previously detected CRC or precancerous lesions and interval colonoscopy in patients performed to detect dysplasia in persons with inflammatory bowel disease affecting the colon. Surveillance recommendations from the MSTF on surveillance after cancer<sup>2</sup> and removal of precancerous lesions<sup>3</sup> are available in other documents. Screening is also distinct

**Abbreviations used in this paper:** CRC, colorectal cancer; FIT, fecal immunochemical test; MSTF, U.S. Multi-Society Task Force on Colorectal Cancer; SSP, sessile serrated polyp.

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**Table 4.** Multi-Society Task Force Ranking of Current Colorectal Cancer Screening Tests

### Tier 1

Colonoscopy every 10 years  
Annual fecal immunochemical test

### Tier 2

CT colonography every 5 years  
FIT–fecal DNA every 3 years  
Flexible sigmoidoscopy every 10 years (or every 5 years)

### Tier 3

Capsule colonoscopy every 5 years  
Available tests not currently recommended  
Septin 9

# Colorectal Cancer Screening for Average-Risk Adults: 2018 Guideline Update From the American Cancer Society

Andrew M. D. Wolf, MD<sup>1</sup>; Elizabeth T. H. Fontham, MPH, DrPH<sup>2</sup>; Timothy R. Church, PhD<sup>3</sup>; Christopher R. Flowers, MD, MS<sup>4</sup>; Carmen E. Guerra, MD<sup>5</sup>; Samuel J. LaMonte, MD<sup>6</sup>; Ruth Etzioni, PhD<sup>7</sup>; Matthew T. McKenna, MD<sup>8</sup>; Kevin C. Oeffinger, MD<sup>9</sup>; Ya-Chen Tina Shih, PhD<sup>10</sup>; Louise C. Walter, MD<sup>11</sup>; Kimberly S. Andrews, BA<sup>12</sup>; Otis W. Brawley, MD<sup>13</sup>; Durado Brooks, MD, MPH<sup>14</sup>; Stacey A. Fedewa, PhD, MPH<sup>15</sup>; Deana Manassaram-Baptiste, PhD, MPH<sup>16</sup>; Rebecca L. Siegel, MPH<sup>17</sup>; Richard C. Wender, MD<sup>18</sup>; Robert A. Smith, PhD<sup>19</sup>

TABLE 1. American Cancer Society Guideline for CRC Screening, 2018

## Recommendations<sup>a</sup>

The ACS recommends that adults aged 45 y and older with an average risk<sup>b</sup> of CRC undergo regular screening with either a high-sensitivity stool-based test or a structural (visual) examination, depending on patient preference and test availability. As a part of the screening process, all positive results on noncolonoscopy screening tests should be followed up with timely colonoscopy.

The recommendation to begin screening at age 45 y is a *qualified recommendation*.

The recommendation for regular screening in adults aged 50 y and older is a *strong recommendation*.

The ACS recommends that average-risk adults in good health with a life expectancy of greater than 10 y continue CRC screening through the age of 75 y (*qualified recommendation*).

The ACS recommends that clinicians individualize CRC screening decisions for individuals aged 76 through 85 y based on patient preferences, life expectancy, health status, and prior screening history (*qualified recommendation*).

The ACS recommends that clinicians discourage individuals over age 85 y from continuing CRC screening (*qualified recommendation*).





## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

# Effectiveness of screening colonoscopy in reducing the risk of death from right and left colon cancer: a large community-based study

Chyke A Doubeni,<sup>1</sup> Douglas A Corley,<sup>2</sup> Virginia P Quinn,<sup>3</sup> Christopher D Jensen,<sup>2</sup> Ann G Zauber,<sup>4</sup> Michael Goodman,<sup>5</sup> Jill R Johnson,<sup>1</sup> Shivan J Mehta,<sup>6</sup> Tracy A Becerra,<sup>3</sup> Wei K Zhao,<sup>2</sup> Joanne Schottinger,<sup>3</sup> V Paul Doria-Rose,<sup>7</sup> Theodore R Levin,<sup>2</sup> Noel S Weiss,<sup>8</sup> Robert H Fletcher<sup>9</sup>

**Table 2** Association between receipt of screening endoscopy and colorectal adenocarcinoma death risk

Screening colonoscopy status according to colon location	Case patients, n=1747	Matched control patients, n=3460	Estimated relative risks (95% CI)	
			Bivariate model	Multivariate model*
All locations in the colon/rectum				
No screening endoscopy	1358	2310	1.00	1.00
Screening colonoscopy	24	120	0.33 (0.21 to 0.52)	0.33 (0.21 to 0.52)
Screening sigmoidoscopy	365	1030	0.60 (0.52 to 0.69)	0.64 (0.56 to 0.75)
Right colon				
No screening endoscopy	649	1151	1.00	1.00
Screening colonoscopy	13	61	0.37 (0.20 to 0.68)	0.35 (0.18 to 0.65)
Screening sigmoidoscopy	218	535	0.72 (0.59 to 0.87)	0.75 (0.62 to 0.92)
Left colon/rectum				
No screening endoscopy	669	1092	1.00	1.00
Screening colonoscopy	9	56	0.25 (0.12 to 0.50)	0.25 (0.12 to 0.53)
Screening sigmoidoscopy	138	468	0.48 (0.38 to 0.59)	0.52 (0.41 to 0.66)

\*The multivariate model adjusted for race/ethnicity, family history, percentage of people 25+ years in the census tract with at least a high-school diploma, Charlson comorbidity score and number of primary care visits, as well as an indicator faecal occult blood testing. The estimates were obtained from conditional regression models.

# Potentially Modifiable Failures in the Screening Process to Prevent Death from Colorectal Cancer

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Douglas A. Corley, MD, PhD  
(for Chyke Doubeni, MD)

## Methods

- ◆ **Study Design:**

- Retrospective cohort study

- ◆ **Setting:**

- Kaiser Permanente Northern and Southern California

- ◆ **Population:**

- Patients were aged 55-90 who died from CRC in 2006-2012 and had  $\geq 5$  years of health plan enrollment prior to diagnosis.
- Matched cancer-free controls.

- ◆ **Data:**

- Receipt, results, indications, and follow-up of CRC testing in the 10-year period prior to diagnosis were obtained from electronic databases and chart audits.



## Results – overview

- **Among 1,750 patients who died from CRC:**
  - 65.9% (n=1,153) were not up-to-date with screening:
    - Failure to ever screen (33.8%, n=591)
    - Failure to screen at appropriate intervals (31.1%, n=545)
    - Failure to receive recommended surveillance (1.0%, n=17)
  - 9.7% (n=170) failed to follow-up for a positive test
  - 24.4% (n=427) died despite being screening up-to-date (failure of the screening test)
- **62.5% (n=267) patients with a failure of the screening test had right colon cancers.**
- **Fewer visits with a PCP was strongly associated with failure to screen or screen adequately..**



## Conclusions

- ◆ In two healthcare systems with high screening rates:
- ◆ Most people dying from CRC were not up to date with screening or did not receive follow up after a positive screening result
- ◆ Failure to screen was strongly correlated with PCP contacts
- ◆ For all test types, failures of the screening tests were disproportionately right-sided cancers
- ◆ Failure of surveillance follow-up was an uncommon cause of death
- ◆ Although, we cannot eliminate all failures of CRC screening, these findings point to potential opportunities to further decrease deaths from CRC

# 2018: High Rates of Interval Colorectal Cancer Persist

Number of Patients who will Develop Interval Colorectal Cancer in an Endoscopist's Career?	
Colonoscopy Volume	Median ADR (24-28%)
Very Low (115/year)	1
Moderate (316/year)	3
Very High (789/year)	9



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diagnosis of the youngest affected relative or age 40, whichever is earlier. Persons with a single first-degree relative diagnosed at ≥60 years with CRC or an advanced adenoma can be offered average-risk screening options beginning at age 40 years.

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## Recommendations

1. We recommend colonoscopy every 10 years or annual FIT as first-tier options for screening the average-risk persons for colorectal neoplasia (strong recommendation; moderate-quality evidence).
2. We recommend that physicians performing screening colonoscopy measure quality, including the adenoma detection rate (strong recommendation, high-quality evidence).
3. We recommend that physicians performing FIT monitor quality (strong recommendation, low-quality evidence). The recommended quality measurements for FIT programs are detailed in a prior publication.<sup>86</sup>
4. We recommend CT colonography every 5 years or FIT–fecal DNA every 3 years (strong recommendation, low-quality evidence) or flexible sigmoidoscopy every 5 to 10 years (strong recommendation, high-quality evidence) in patients who refuse colonoscopy and FIT.
5. We suggest that capsule colonoscopy (if available) is an appropriate screening test when patients decline colonoscopy, FIT, FIT–fecal DNA, CT colonography, and flexible sigmoidoscopy (weak recommendation, low-quality evidence).
6. We suggest against Septin9 for CRC screening (weak recommendation, low-quality evidence).

# Quality Indicators For Colonoscopy

Proposed Thresholds	$\geq 85\%$
	$\geq 95\%$
	Men: $\geq 30\%$ Women: $\geq 20\%$
	$\geq 90\%$
	100%
	$<1\%$

Clean: Bowel Preparation



Scope insertion: Cecal Intubation Rate



Inspection: Adenoma Detection Rate



Lesion Characterization



Polypectomy: Complete

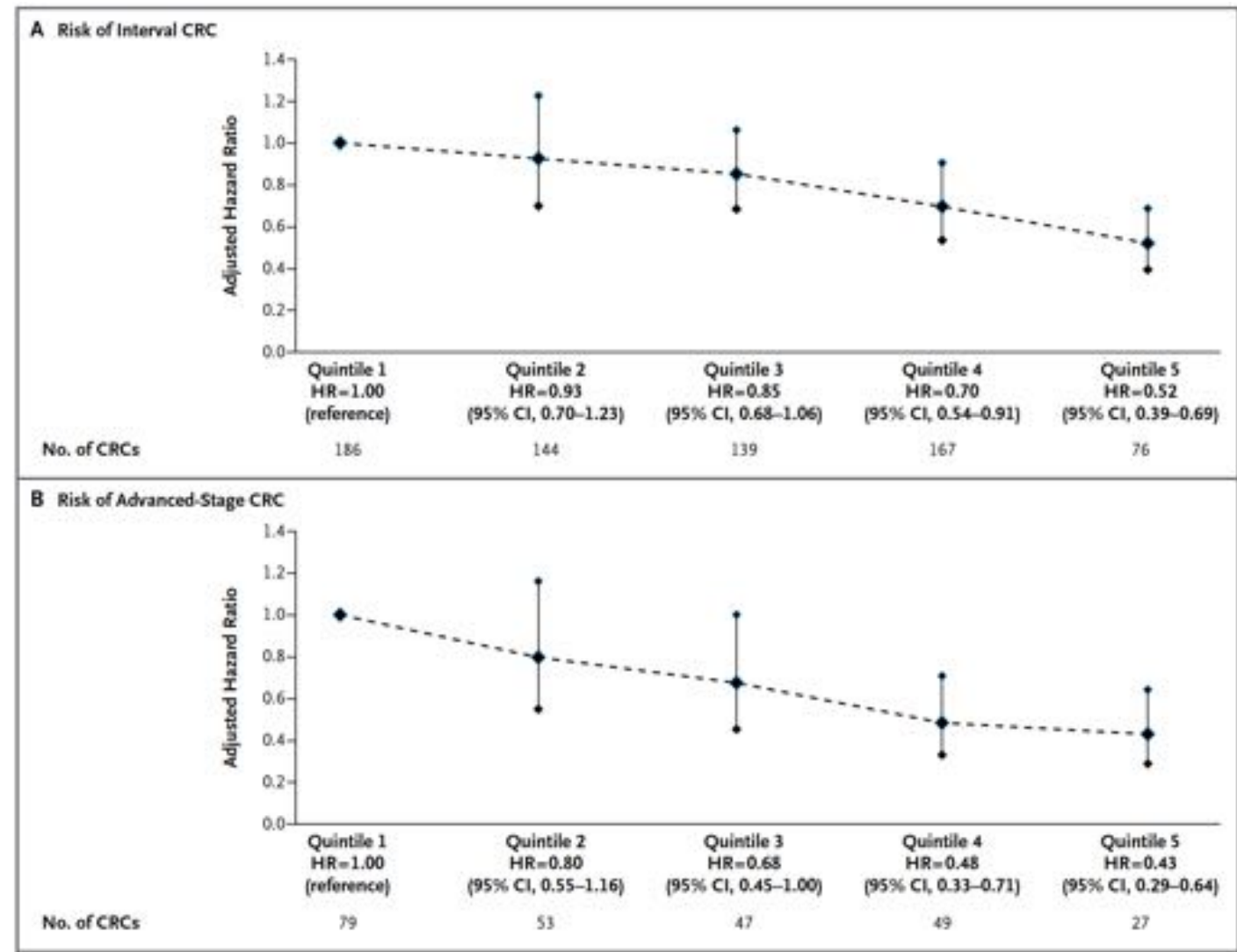


**Cancer**



# ADR is Correlated with Interval Cancer

- 314,872 colonoscopies performed by 136 gastroenterologists at 17 medical centers with 3.3 million members
- ADR range: 7.3 - 52.5%
- Linear relationship across 5 quintiles of ADR from lowest to highest



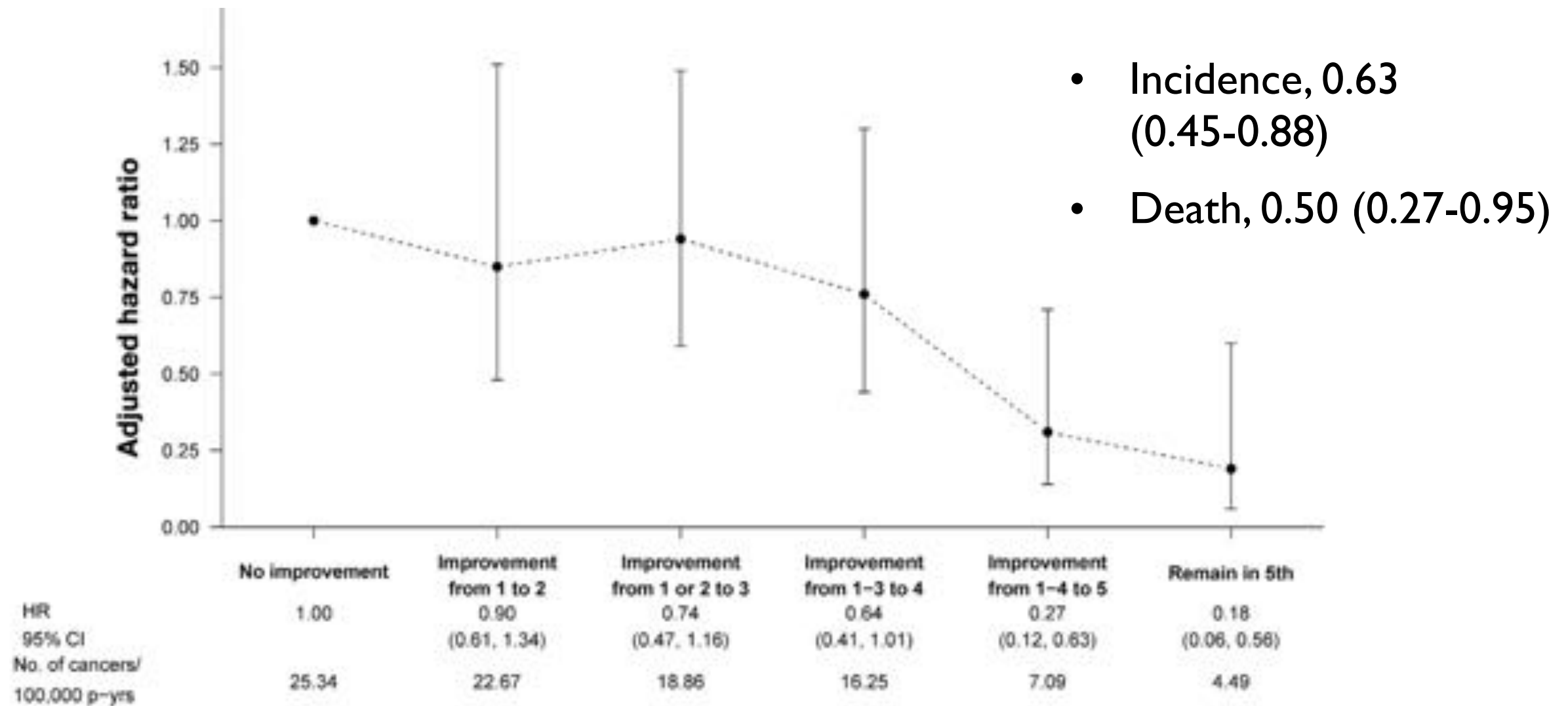
# ADR is Correlated with Interval Cancer

**Table 2.** Adenoma Detection Rate and Risk of an Interval Colorectal Cancer among All Patients.

Adenoma Detection Rate	Interval Cancer  <i>no. of cases</i>	Hazard Ratio (95% CI)*	Unadjusted Risk  <i>no. of cases/ 10,000 person-yr</i>
Continuous rate	712	0.97 (0.96–0.98)	7.7
Rate quintile			
Quintile 1: 7.35–19.05%	186	1.00 (reference)	9.8
Quintile 2: 19.06–23.85%	144	0.93 (0.70–1.23)	8.6
Quintile 3: 23.86–28.40%	139	0.85 (0.68–1.06)	8.0
Quintile 4: 28.41–33.50%	167	0.70 (0.54–0.91)	7.0
Quintile 5: 33.51–52.51%	76	0.52 (0.39–0.69)	4.8

- Each 1% increase in ADR associated with:  
  
3% decrease in interval CRC risk (HR, 0.97, 95%CI: 0.96-0.98)  
  
5% decrease in CRC death risk
- No threshold effect above which increases in ADR were without benefit

# Increases in ADRs from Individual Endoscopists Reduces Interval Cancer



Kaminski MF, Wieszczyn P, Rupinski M et al. Gastroenterology 2017



## Quality indicators for colonoscopy

Colonoscopy is widely used for the diagnosis and treatment of colon disorders. Properly performed, colonoscopy is generally safe, accurate, and well-tolerated. Visualization of the mucosa of the entire large intestine and distal terminal ileum usually is possible during colonoscopy. Polyps can be removed during colonoscopy, thereby reducing the risk of colon cancer. Colonoscopy is the preferred method to evaluate the colon in most adult patients with large-bowel symptoms, iron deficiency anemia, abnormal results on radiographic studies of the colon, positive results on colorectal cancer (CRC) screening tests, post-polypectomy and post-cancer resection surveillance, and diagnosis and surveillance in inflammatory bowel disease. In addition, colonoscopy is the most commonly used CRC screening test in the United States.<sup>1</sup> Based on 2010 data, over 3.3 million outpatient colonoscopies are performed annually in the United States, with screening and polyp surveillance accounting for half of indications.<sup>2</sup>

Optimal effectiveness of colonoscopy depends on patient acceptance of the procedure, which depends mostly on acceptance of the bowel preparation.<sup>3</sup> Preparation quality affects the completeness of examination, procedure duration, and the need to cancel or repeat procedures at earlier dates than would otherwise be needed.<sup>4,5</sup> Ineffective preparation is a major contributor to costs.<sup>6</sup> Meticulous inspection<sup>7,8</sup> and longer withdrawal times<sup>9,14</sup> are associated with higher adenoma detection rates (ADR). A high ADR is essential to rendering recommended intervals<sup>15</sup> between screening and surveillance examinations safe.<sup>16,17</sup> Optimal technique is needed to ensure a high probability of detecting dysplasia when present in inflammatory bowel disease.<sup>17,21</sup> Finally, technical expertise and experience will help prevent adverse events that might offset the benefits of removing neoplastic lesions.<sup>22</sup>

Recent studies report that colonoscopy is less effective in preventing proximal colon cancer and cancer deaths (ie, colon cancer proximal to the splenic flexure) compared with distal cancer (ie, colon cancer at or distal to the splenic flexure).<sup>23,26</sup> Decreased protection against right-sided CRC is likely due to multiple factors. These include missed adenomas or incompletely resected adenomas; suboptimal bowel preparation; precancerous

lesions that are endoscopically subtle or difficult to remove, such as sessile serrated polyps and flat and/or depressed adenomas, and differences in tumorigenesis between right-sided and left-sided cancers. Improving prevention of right-sided colon cancer is a major goal of colonoscopy quality programs.

Five studies have established that gastroenterologists are more effective than surgeons or primary care physicians at preventing CRC by colonoscopy.<sup>27,28,32</sup> This most likely reflects higher rates of complete examinations (ie, cecal intubation)<sup>33</sup> and higher rates of adenoma detection among gastroenterologists.<sup>33,34</sup> All endoscopists performing colonoscopy should measure the quality of their colonoscopy. Institutions where endoscopists from multiple specialties are practicing should reasonably expect all endoscopists to participate in the program and achieve recommended quality benchmarks.

The quality of health care can be measured by comparing the performance of an individual or a group of individuals with an ideal or benchmark.<sup>35</sup> The particular parameter that is being used for comparison is termed a quality indicator. A quality indicator often is reported as a ratio between the incidence of correct performance and the opportunity for correct performance<sup>4</sup> or as the proportion of interventions that achieve a predefined goal.<sup>35</sup> Quality indicators can be divided into 3 categories: (1) structural measures—these assess characteristics of the entire health care environment (eg, participation by a physician or other clinician in systematic clinical database registry that includes consensus endorsed quality measures), (2) process measures—these assess performance during the delivery of care (eg, ADR and adequate biopsy sampling during colonoscopy for chronic ulcerative colitis), (3) outcome measures—these assess the results of the care that was provided (eg, the prevention of cancer by colonoscopy and reduction in the incidence of colonoscopic perforation).

### METHODOLOGY

In 2006, the American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ASGE)/American College of Gastroenterology (ACG) Task Force on Quality in Endoscopy published their first version of quality indicators for colonoscopy.<sup>36</sup> The present update integrates new data pertaining to previously proposed quality indicators and new quality indicators for performing colonoscopy.<sup>36</sup> Indicators that had wide-ranging clinical application, were associated with

# 2015 Updated ADR Thresholds

TABLE 4. Summary of proposed quality indicators

Quality indicator	Performance target (%)
8. Frequency with which adenomas are detected in asymptomatic average-risk individuals (screening) (priority indicator)	
Adenoma detection rate for male/female population	≥ 25
Adenoma detection rate for male patients	≥ 30
Adenoma detection rate for female patients	≥ 20

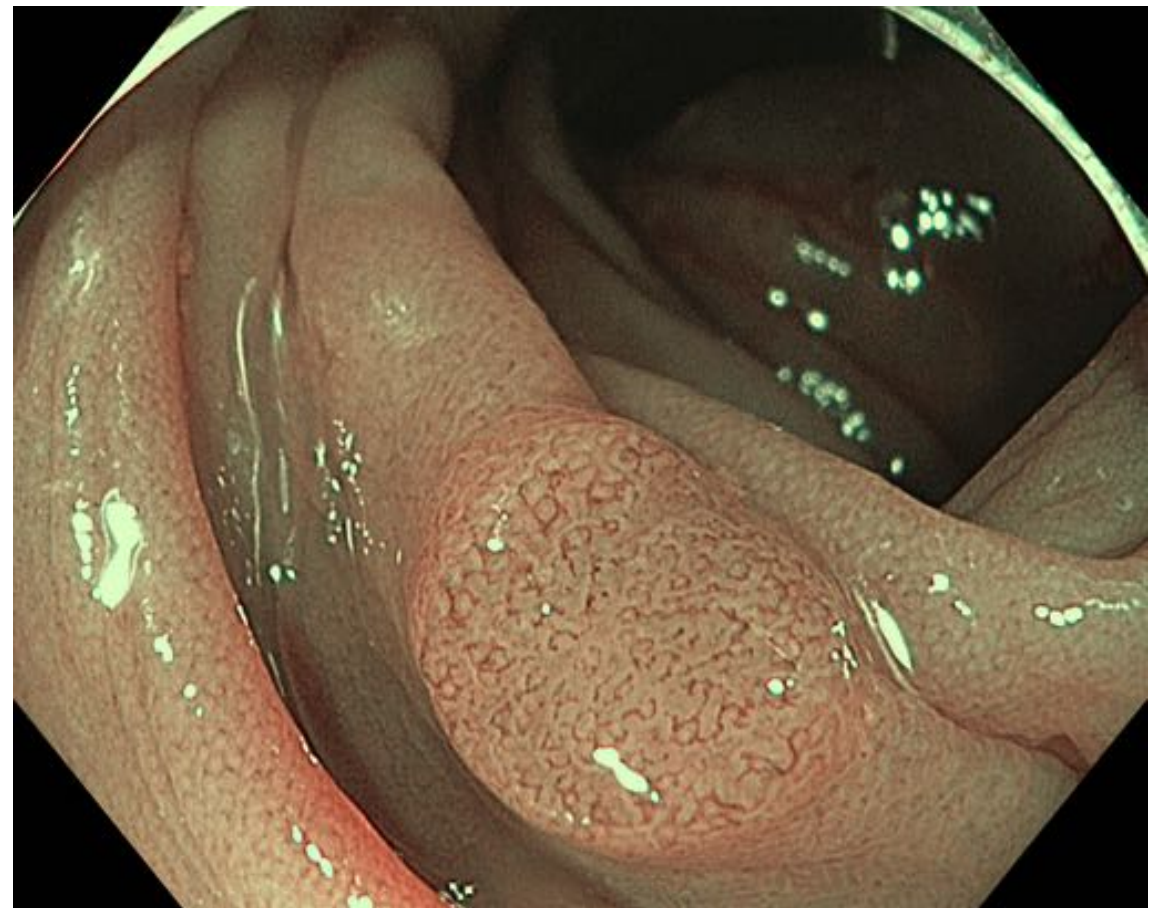
Volume 81, No. 1 | 2015 GASTROINTESTINAL ENDOSCOPY 45



# Adenoma Detection Rate (ADR)

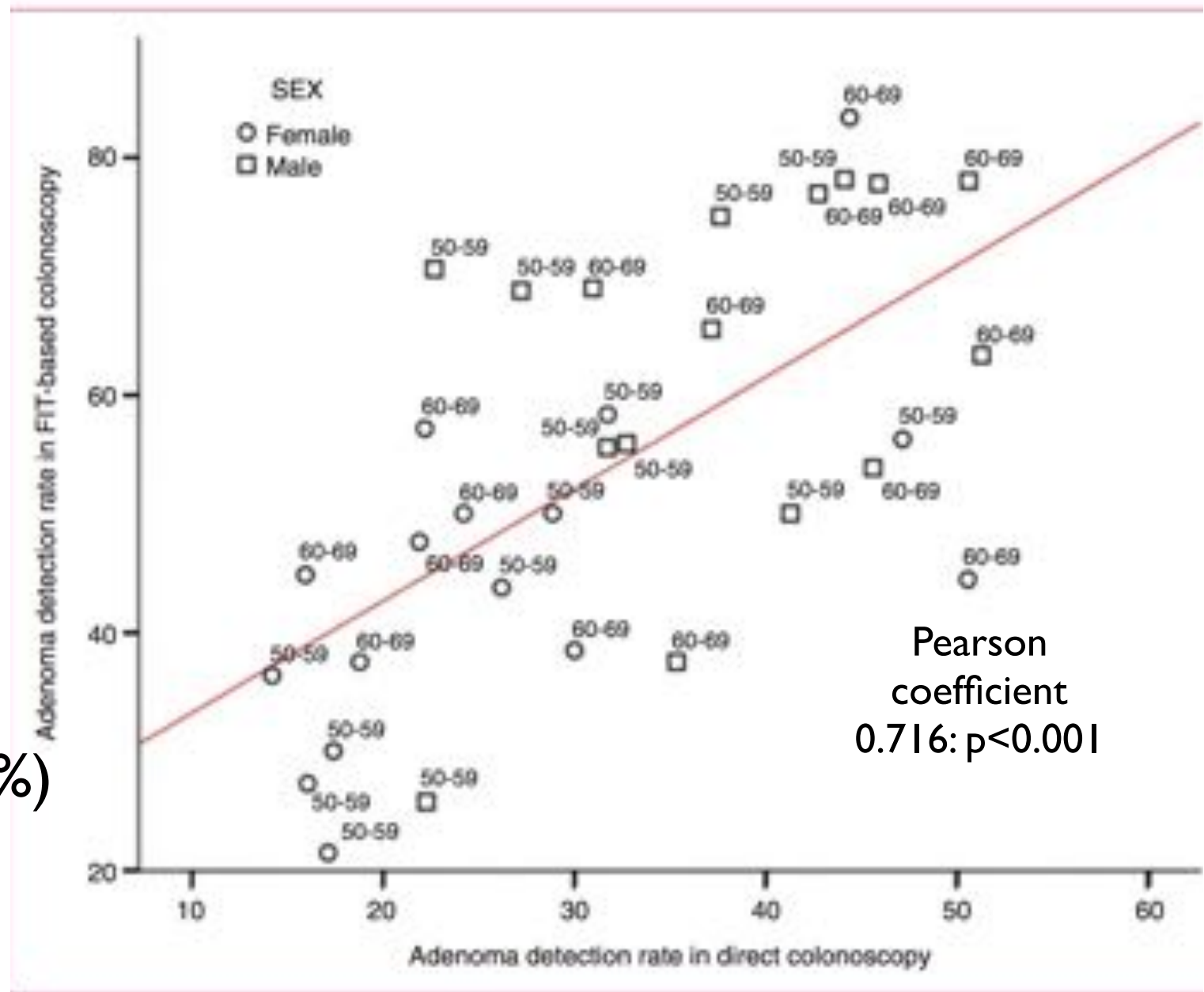
ADR is the number of screening patients with at least one adenoma divided by total number of consecutive patients aged 50 years or older screened with colonoscopy.

\*If incomplete due to inadequate prep, patient discomfort, etc, or indication is surveillance or diagnostic, then procedure is not included in the calculation.



# Screening ADR in a FIT cohort

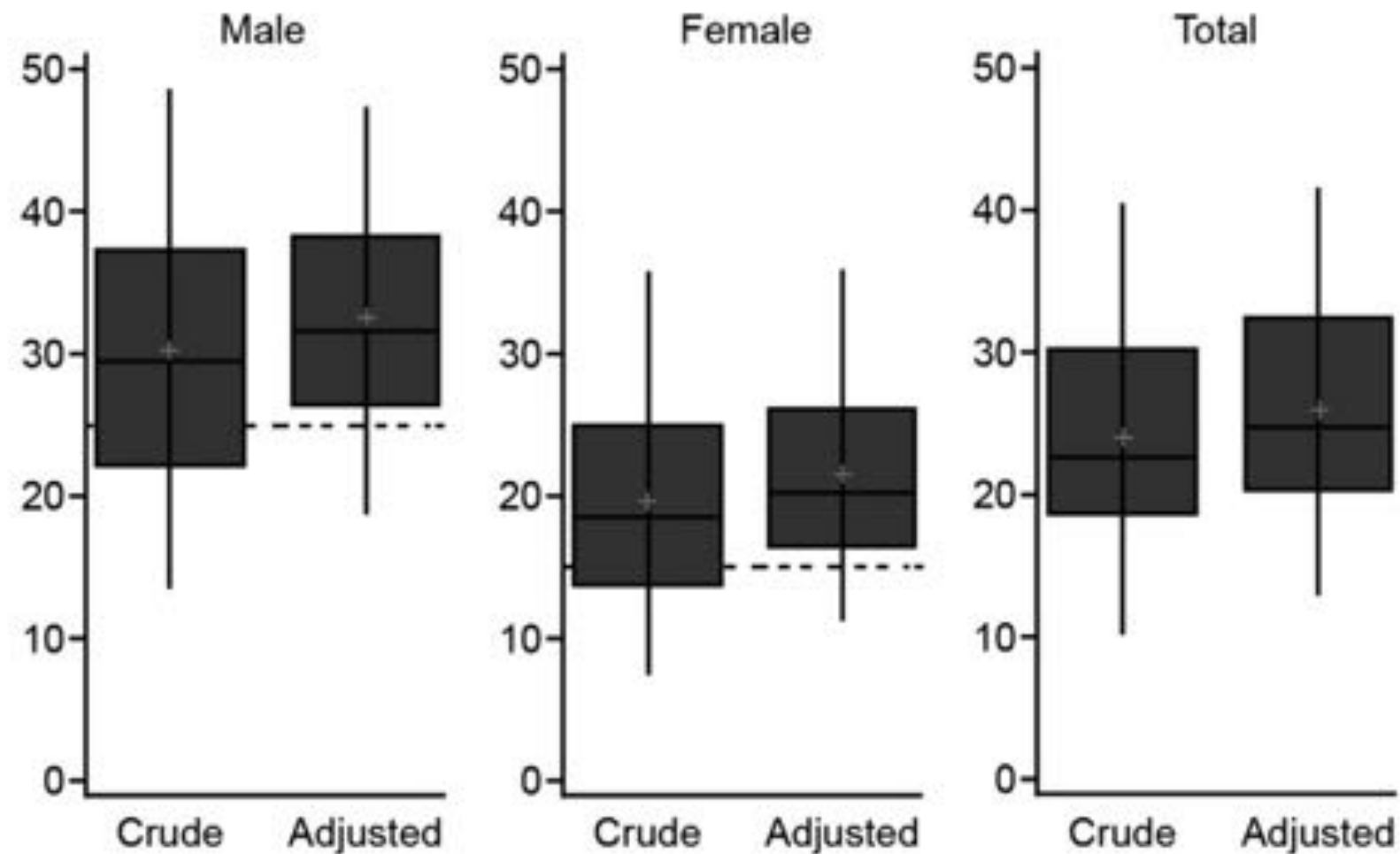
- Predictive model using COLONPREV study dataset
- Colonoscopy in 5722 individuals: 5059 as primary strategy and 663 after FIT+  
ADR Colonoscopy 31%  
ADR FIT 55%
- Median ADR
  - Colonoscopy: 31% (14%–51%)
  - FIT: 55% (21%–83%)



# Adjustments in Risk Factors DO NOT Matter for ADR

Risk factors:

- age
- race/  
ethnicity
- family  
history



# Serrated polyp detection rates?

**TABLE 2. Endoscopist SDR by ADR group and indication for examination**

ADR	Screening colonoscopies		Surveillance colonoscopies	
	CSSDR	PSDR	CSSDR	PSDR
	Median (IQR)	Median (IQR)	Median (IQR)	Median (IQR)
<15%	1.3 (0.9-3.1)	2.5 (1.1-3.1)	0.0 (0.0-3.4)	5.2 (0.6-6.4)
15% to <25%	3.5 (2.5-4.8)	6.0 (5.0-8.4)	1.3 (0.0-3.4)	4.3 (2.6-5.7)
25% to <35%	6.3 (3.0-7.2)	9.3 (8.2-12.1)	4.9 (3.2-6.7)	8.1 (4.7-12.2)
≥35%	10.0 (8.5-13.1)	16.2 (15.9-23.6)	8.5 (6.4-10.2)	14.7 (10.8-19.4)

SDR, Serrated polyp detection rate; ADR, adenoma detection rate; CSSDR, clinically significant serrated polyp detection rate; PSDR, proximal serrated polyp detection rate; IQR, interquartile range.

Potential SDR benchmarks:  
 CSSDR = 7% & PSDR = 11%



# Serrated Polyp Detection is Highly Variable

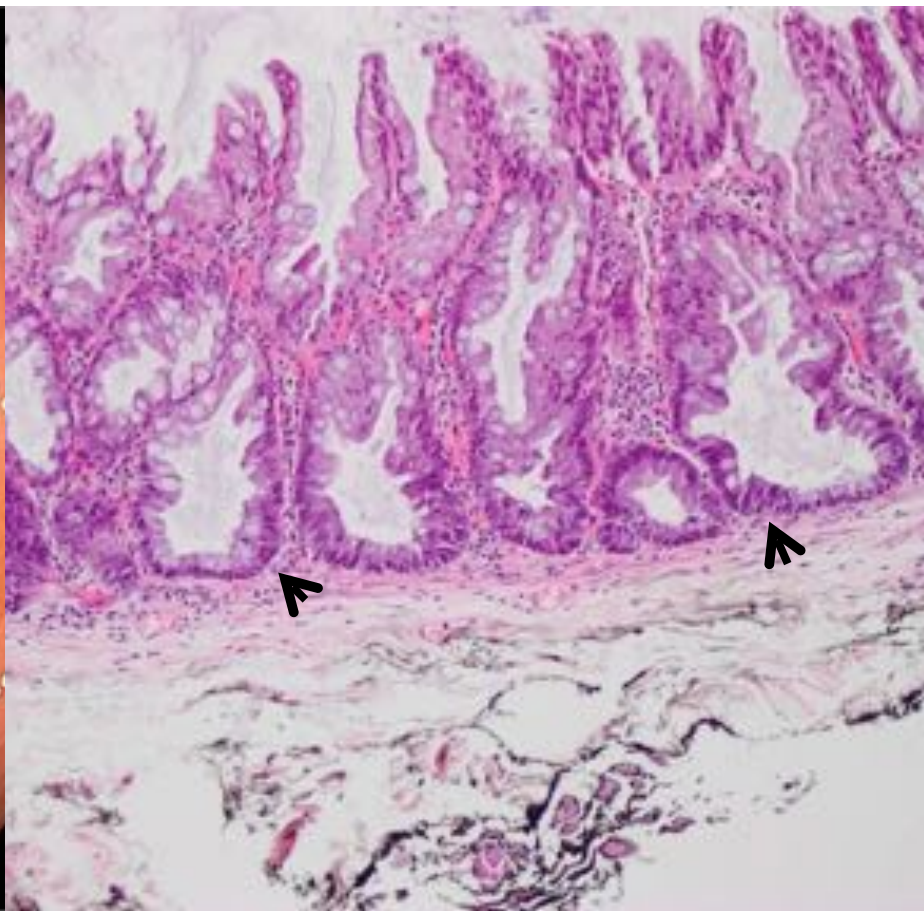
**Table 1.** Screening Colonoscopies and Detection Rates

Endoscopist	Number of colonoscopies	Patient age <sup>a</sup>	Male	≥1 Adenoma	≥1 Proximal serrated polyp	Adenoma detection rate per colonoscopy <sup>a</sup>	Proximal serrated polyp detection rate per colonoscopy <sup>a</sup>
1	3189	59.8 ± 8.0	52%	47%	18%	1.06 ± 1.79	0.26 ± 0.68
2	154	57.8 ± 8.0	45%	31%	10%	0.76 ± 1.59	0.14 ± 0.46
3	532	57.4 ± 7.3	45%	33%	6%	0.73 ± 1.57	0.08 ± 0.35
4	109	58.2 ± 7.0	46%	39%	11%	0.86 ± 1.46	0.18 ± 0.55
5	331	57.4 ± 6.9	48%	40%	13%	0.77 ± 1.36	0.18 ± 0.53
6	124	58.4 ± 6.9	44%	33%	8%	0.77 ± 1.66	0.11 ± 0.41
7	528	58.9 ± 7.7	41%	31%	11%	0.69 ± 1.47	0.16 ± 0.48
8	56	59.2 ± 7.6	50%	46%	13%	1.20 ± 1.86	0.14 ± 0.40
9	348	57.7 ± 7.5	37%	36%	12%	0.74 ± 1.48	0.17 ± 0.52
10	359	57.7 ± 7.3	53%	25%	3%	0.45 ± 1.05	0.04 ± 0.20
11	90	57.7 ± 6.7	52%	17%	1%	0.22 ± 0.56	0.01 ± 0.11
12	83	59.1 ± 8.3	52%	27%	2%	0.46 ± 0.98	0.02 ± 0.15
13	327	58.1 ± 7.8	60%	29%	11%	0.50 ± 0.95	0.15 ± 0.49
14	297	59.5 ± 8.2	50%	21%	4%	0.38 ± 1.07	0.06 ± 0.37
15	154	57.8 ± 8.0	45%	31%	10%	0.76 ± 1.59	0.14 ± 0.46
Combined	6681	58.9 ± 7.8	49%	38%	13%	0.84 ± 1.60	0.19 ± 0.57

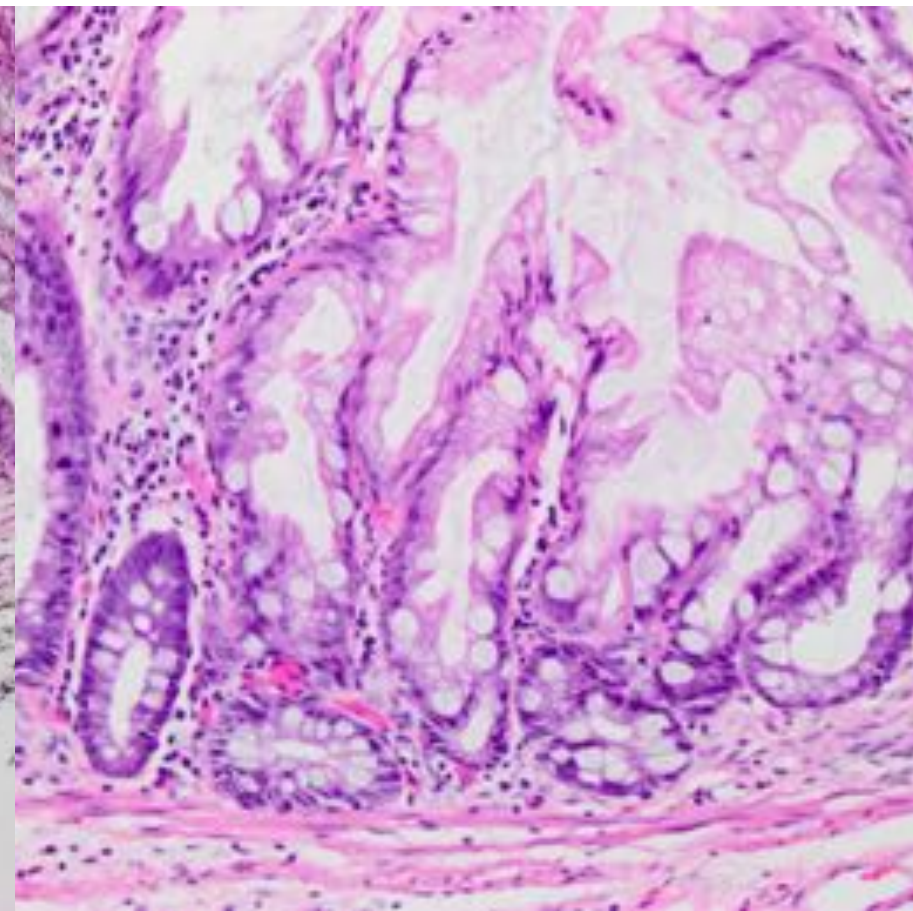
<sup>a</sup>Mean ± SD.

- Proximal serrated polyp detection rate: 13% (1%–18%).
- Endoscopist ( $P < .0001$ ), but not patient age ( $P = .76$ ) or gender ( $P = .95$ ), was associated with proximal serrated polyp detection.

# Serrated polyp detection rates?



**Dilated, boot-shaped crypts with serrations extend throughout crypt, including base**



**Mature Goblet Cells at Crypt Bases**

# Poor Pathology Agreement in the Diagnosis Of Serrated Polyps

Assess observer agreement in the diagnosis of colorectal serrated polyps. 4 GI pathologists, 60 cases

5 categories: SA, HP, adenoma, admixed, other w/ serration

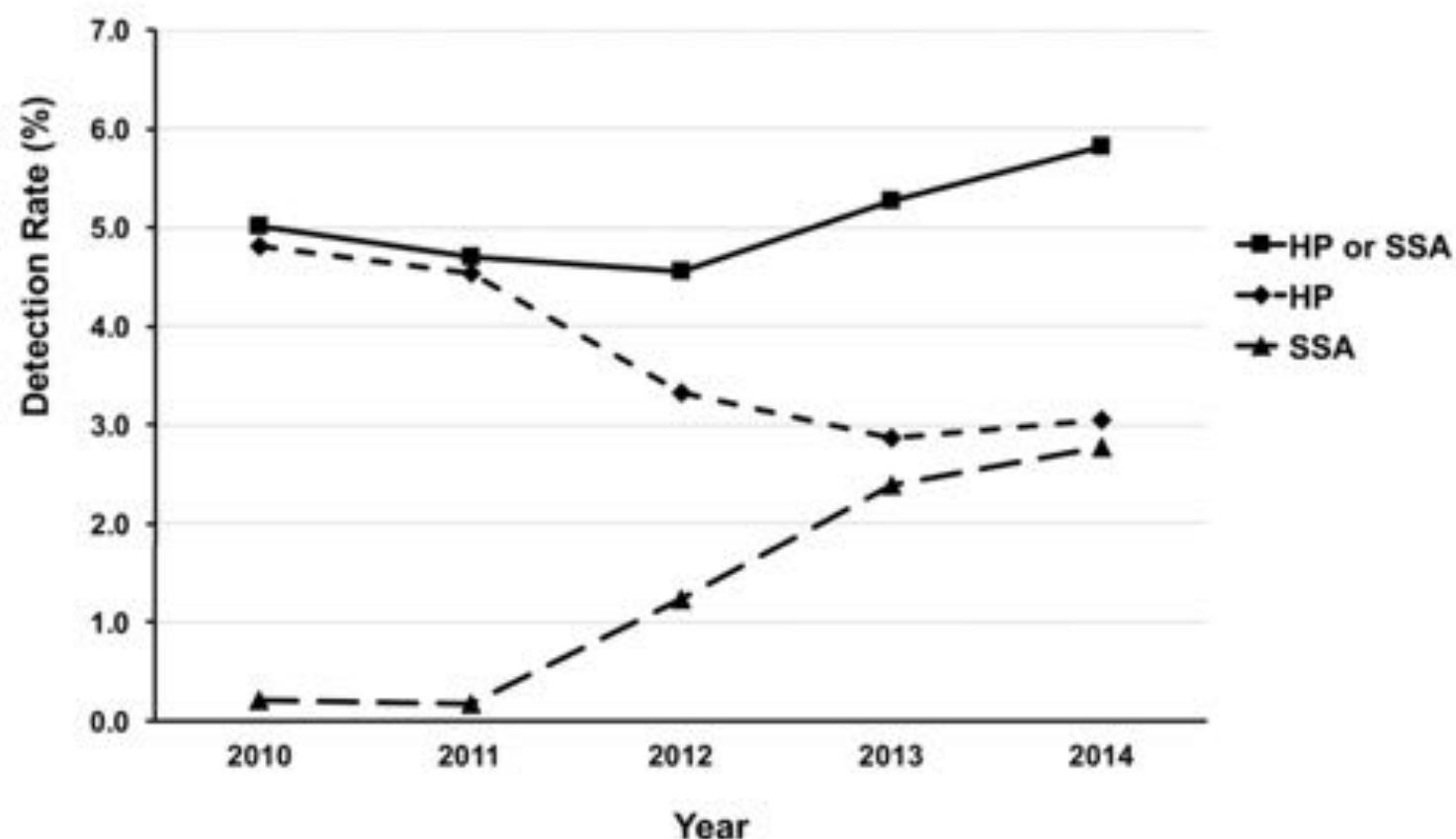
Findings:

	K
Diagnosing between all 5	0.49
Serrated vs. Others	0.38



# Awareness is a First Step

- Colonoscopy and pathology data from 3 medical centers at Kaiser Permanente Northern California. 2010-2014.
- Gastroenterologists and pathologists from 3 medical centers at Kaiser attended a one hour training session on sessile serrated polyp diagnosis in 2012
- Mean sessile serrated polyp detection rates increased from 0.6% in 2010 to 2012 to 3.7% in 2013 to 2014.
- SDRs varied widely among experienced gastroenterologists, even after training (1.1% to 8.1%).





# How to Improve ADR?

**Split Dose is a Must  
for Right Colon!**



Fellows	Position Change	Bowel Prep	Hycosamine	
Withdrawal Time	Repeat Exam	High Definition	Drugs	
Volume	Enhanced Imaging	iScan	EndoRings	
Narrow Band Imaging			Inspect Way In & Out	
Blue Light	Third-Eye Retroscope	Chromoendoscopy	Water	
Retroflexion	FICE	Full-Spectrum Endoscopy	Wide Angle	
Time of Day	Endocuff	Late Schedule	Nurses	Cap

Fellows Position Change Bowel Prep Hycosamine  
Withdrawal Time Repeat Exam High Definition Drugs  
Volume Enhanced Imaging iScan EndoRings  
**Endoscopist** Inspect Way In & Out  
Narrow Band Imaging Blue Light Third-Eye Retroscope Chromoendoscopy Water  
Retroflexion FICE Full-Spectrum Endoscopy Wide Angle  
Time of Day Endocuff Late Schedule Nurses Cap



# Inspection Tips for Higher ADRs

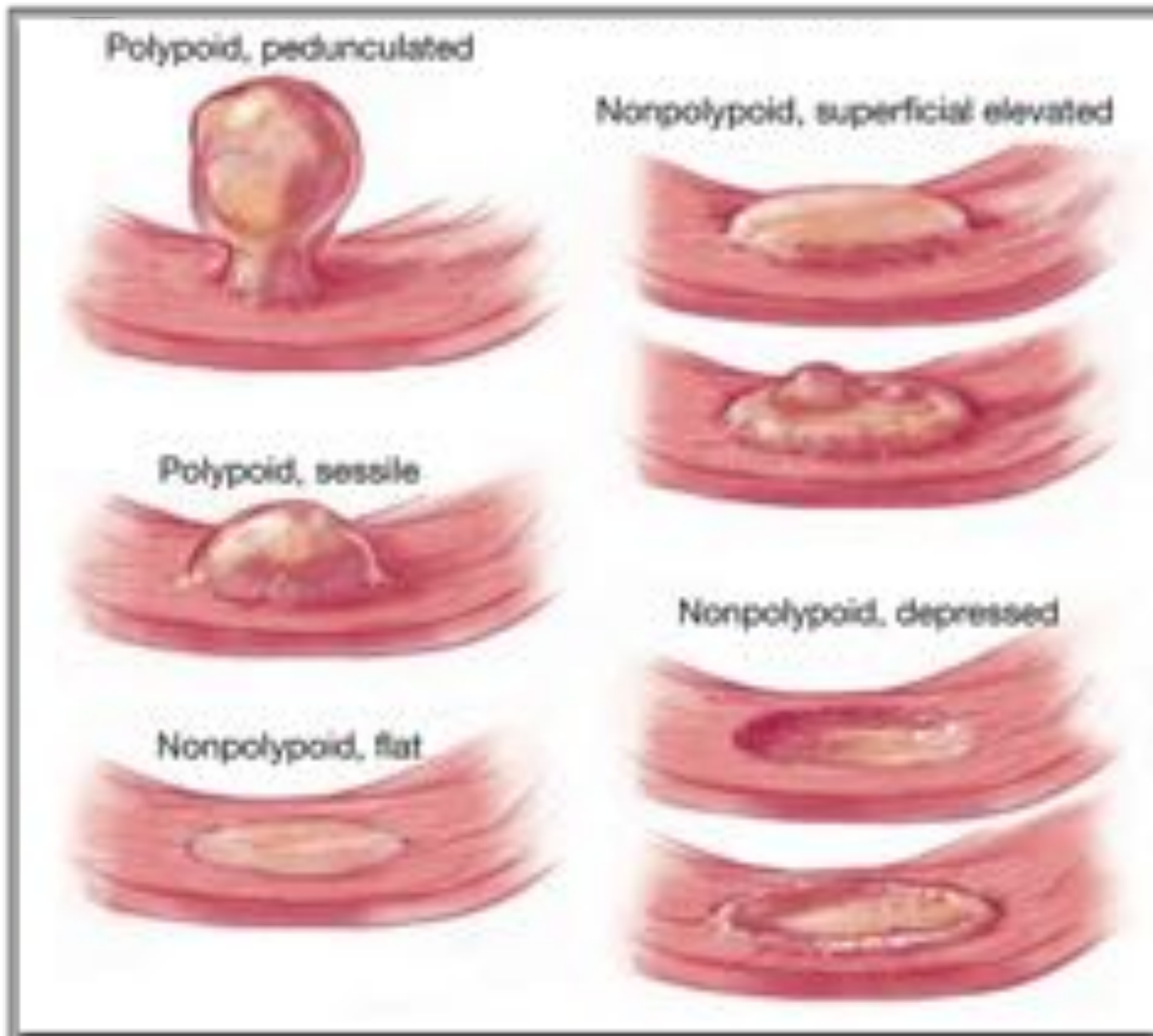
<b>Mindset</b>	<b>1 Know the signature features of adenomas and serrated lesions</b>
<b>Technique</b>	<b>2 Look for subtle lesions - think flat and depressed</b> <b>3 Maintain a straight scope</b> <b>4 Clean the mucosa</b> <b>5 Look behind folds</b> <b>6 Expand &amp; collapse the lumen</b> <b>7 Take adequate time - but be efficient with a plan</b> <b>8 Spend most time in the right colon - examine twice</b>
<b>Tools</b>	<b>9 Know when need adjustment- lighting, cap, chromoendoscopy</b> <b>10 Engage in quality assurance program</b>

# Practicalities of Detection



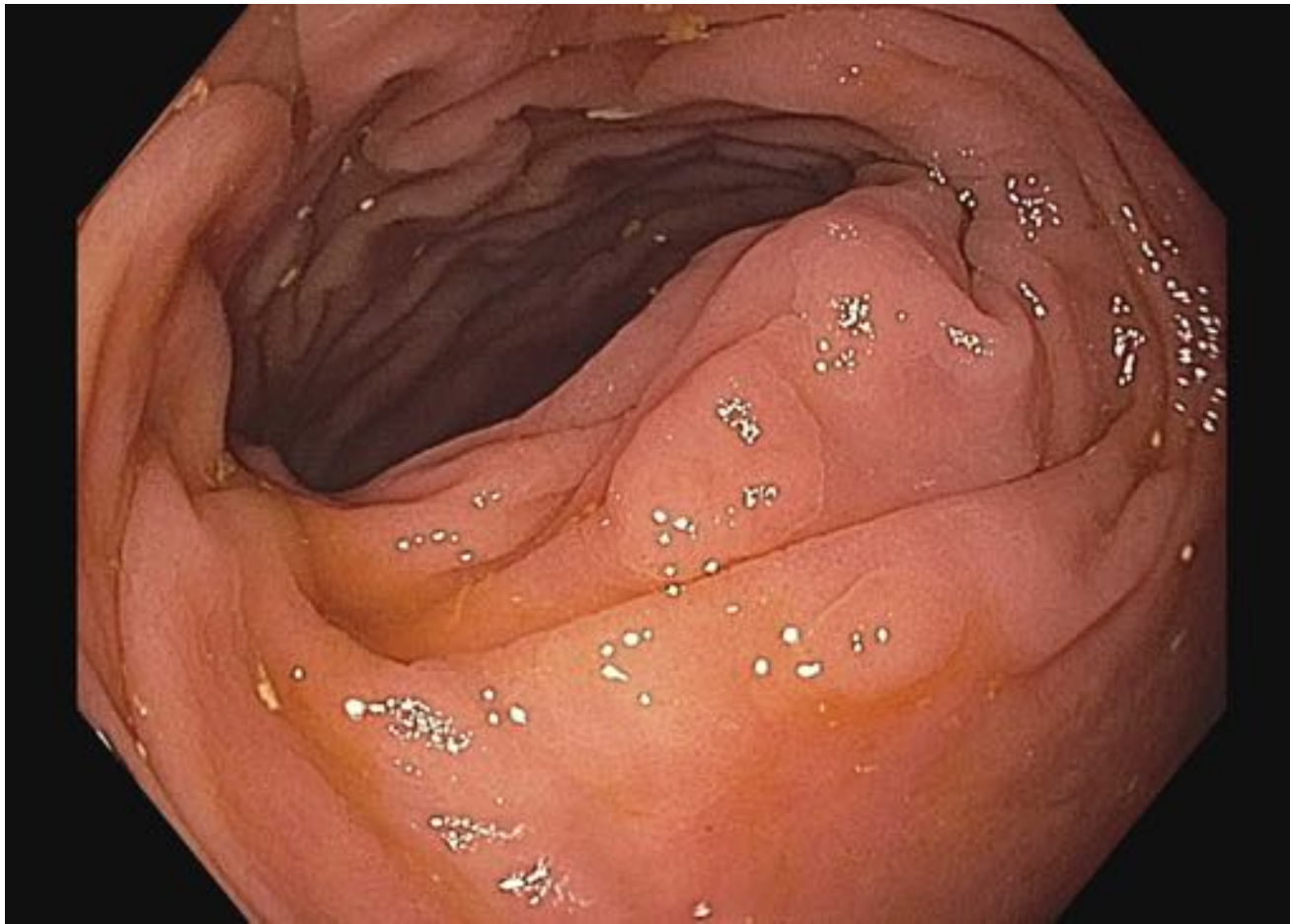
## Look for subtle lesions

- Requires pattern recognition
- Requires clean mucosa
- Requires good lighting & high definition
- Requires good insertion & inspection technique (fold examination, distention, cleansing)
- May require enhanced tools with chromoendsocopy or cap





# Know the Signatures of Adenoma

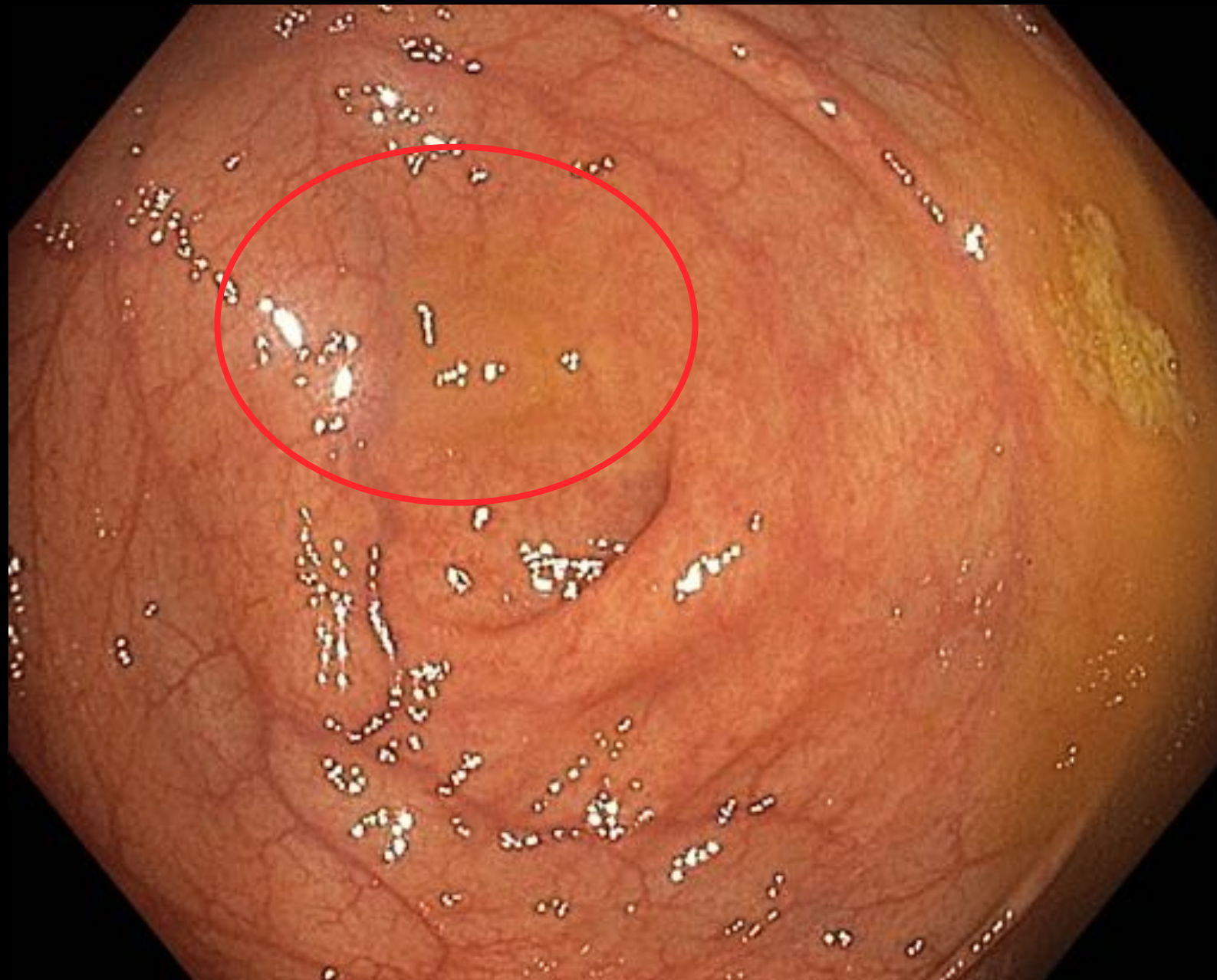


- Subtle color differential (more red)
- Irregular vascular network
- Absence of innominate grooves
- Slight friability
- Deformity of the wall

Look for Pattern of Mucosa



# Know the Signatures of Serrated Lesions





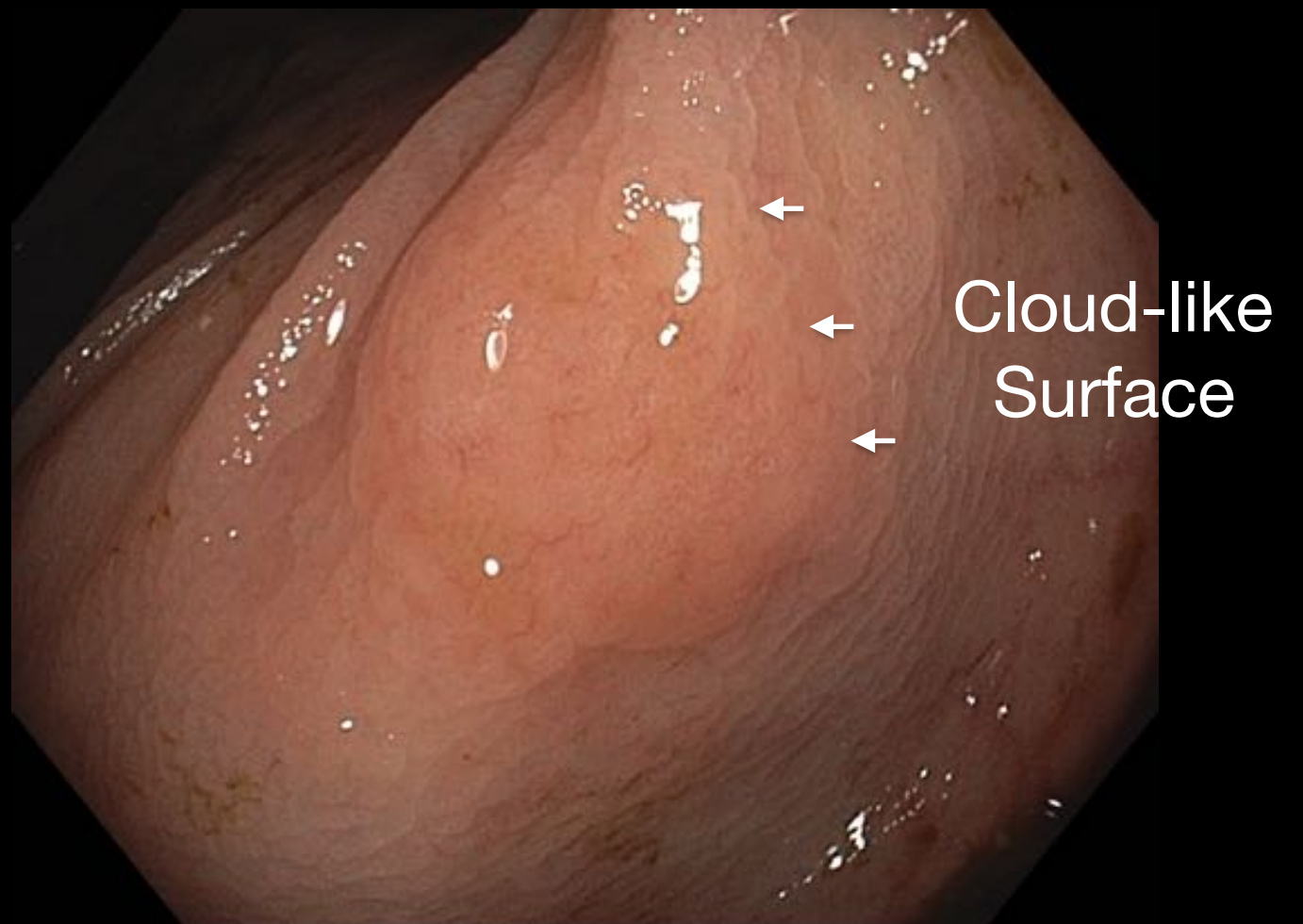
# Features of Serrated Lesions

- Mucus Cap
- Indistinct borders
- Cloud-like Surface
- Irregular Shape
- Dark Pits



# Features of Serrated Lesions

- Mucus Cap
- Indistinct borders
- Cloud-like Surface
- Irregular Shape
- Dark Pits



# Features of Serrated Lesions

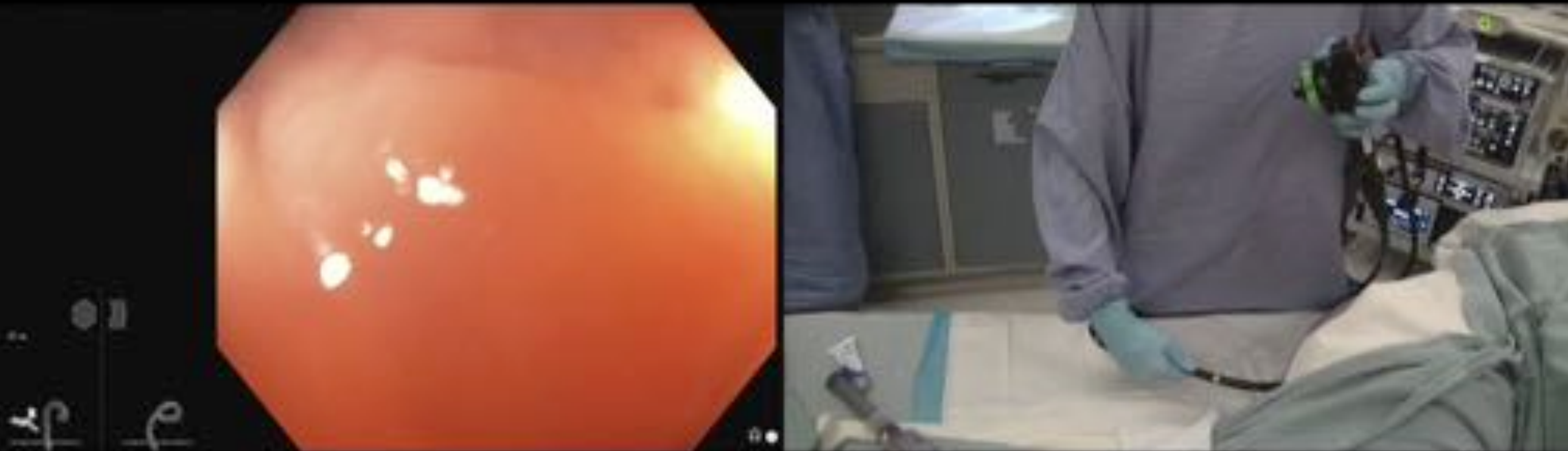
- Mucus Cap
- Indistinct borders
- Cloud-like Surface
- Irregular Shape
- Dark Pits



Dilated Crypts  
“O” pits



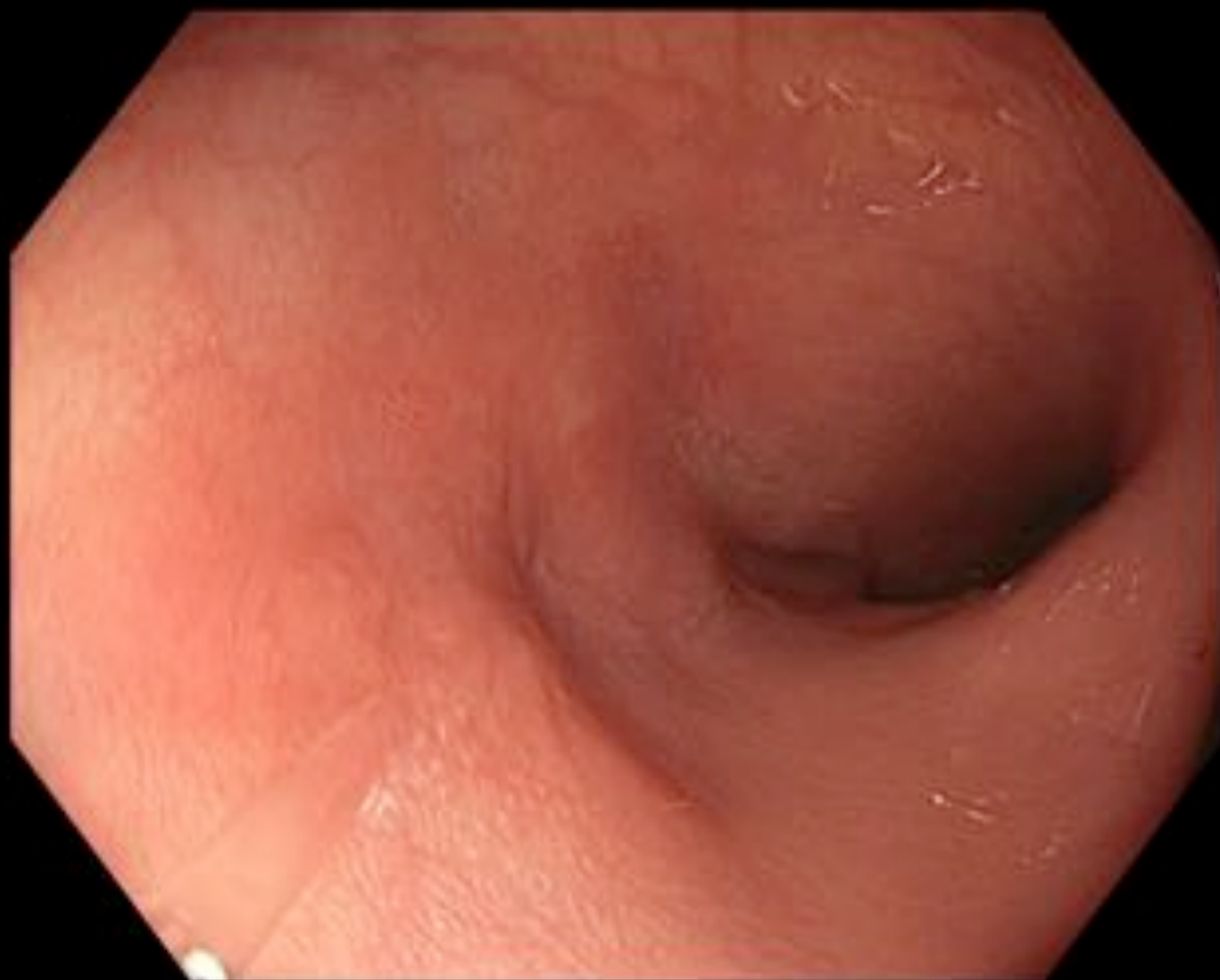
# Straight Endoscope for Controlled & Efficient Inspection



# Inspection Technique

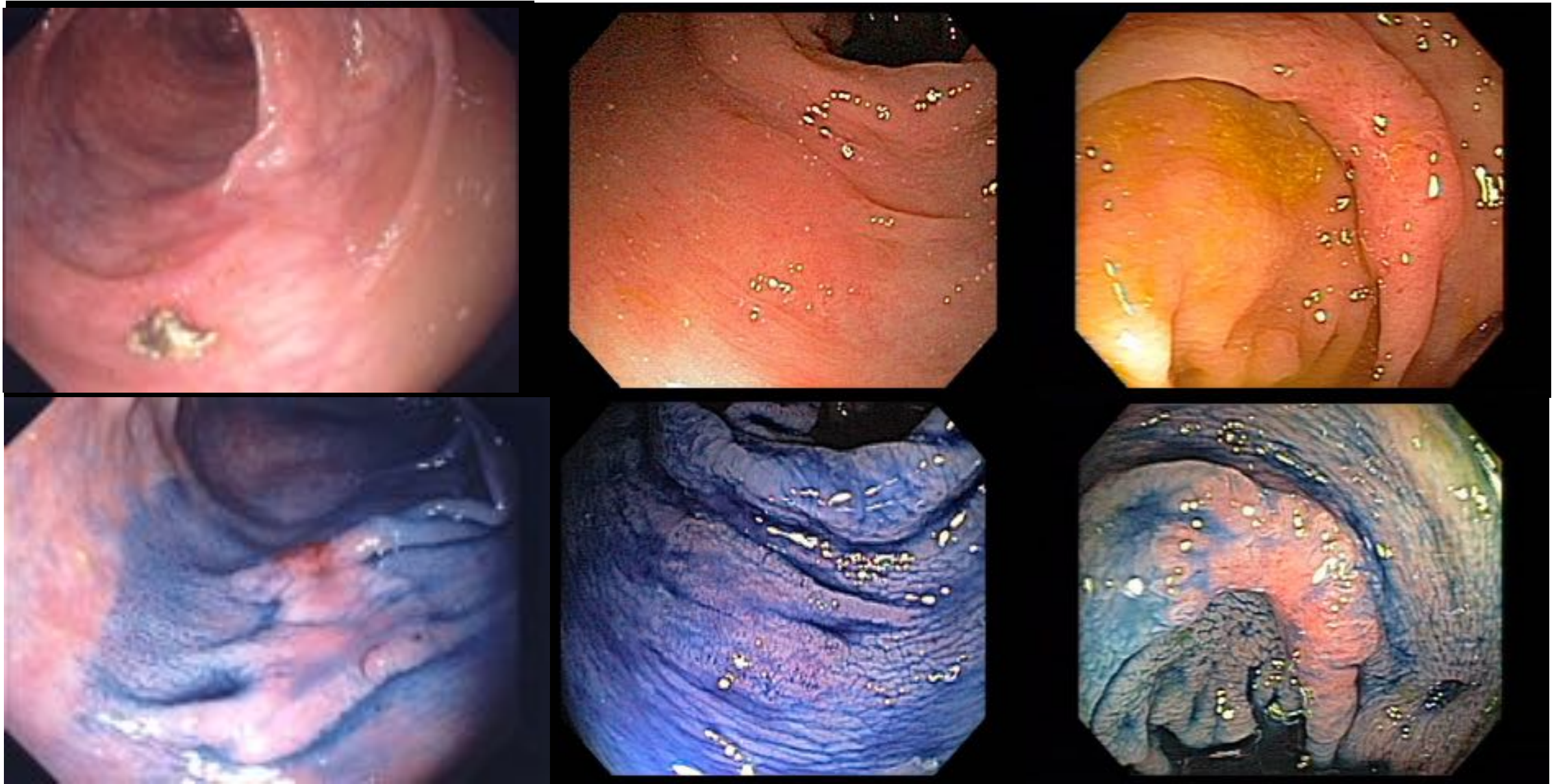






Kaltenbach & Soetikno, Detection, Diagnosis & Management of  
Non-Polypoid Colorectal Neoplasm, 2nd ed. ASGE Learning Library.

# Dye Accentuates Subtle Lesions



Superficial elevated

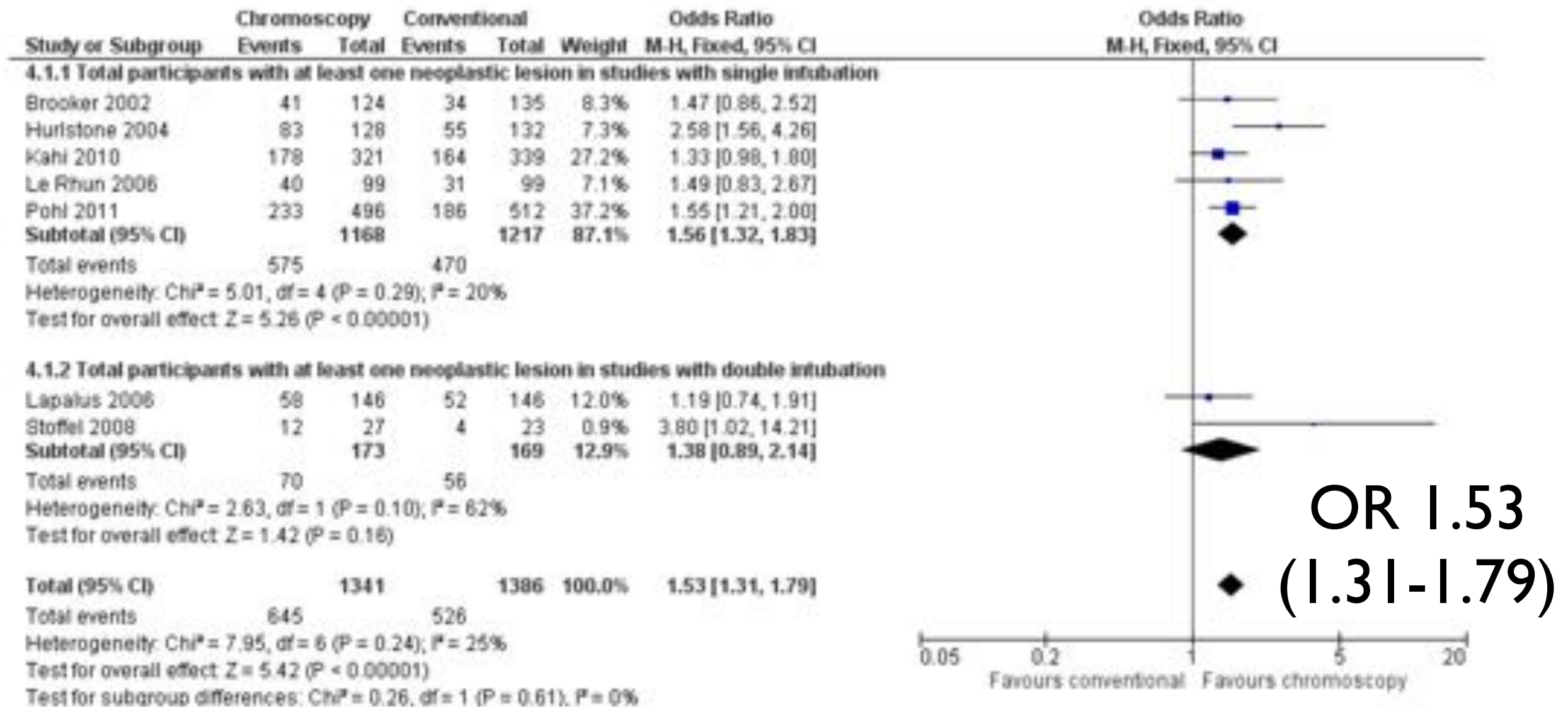
Flat

Depressed





# Higher ADR with Chromoendoscopy



**Messy**

**Too dark**

**Will find more  
non-specific  
noise**

**It pools**

**Takes long time**

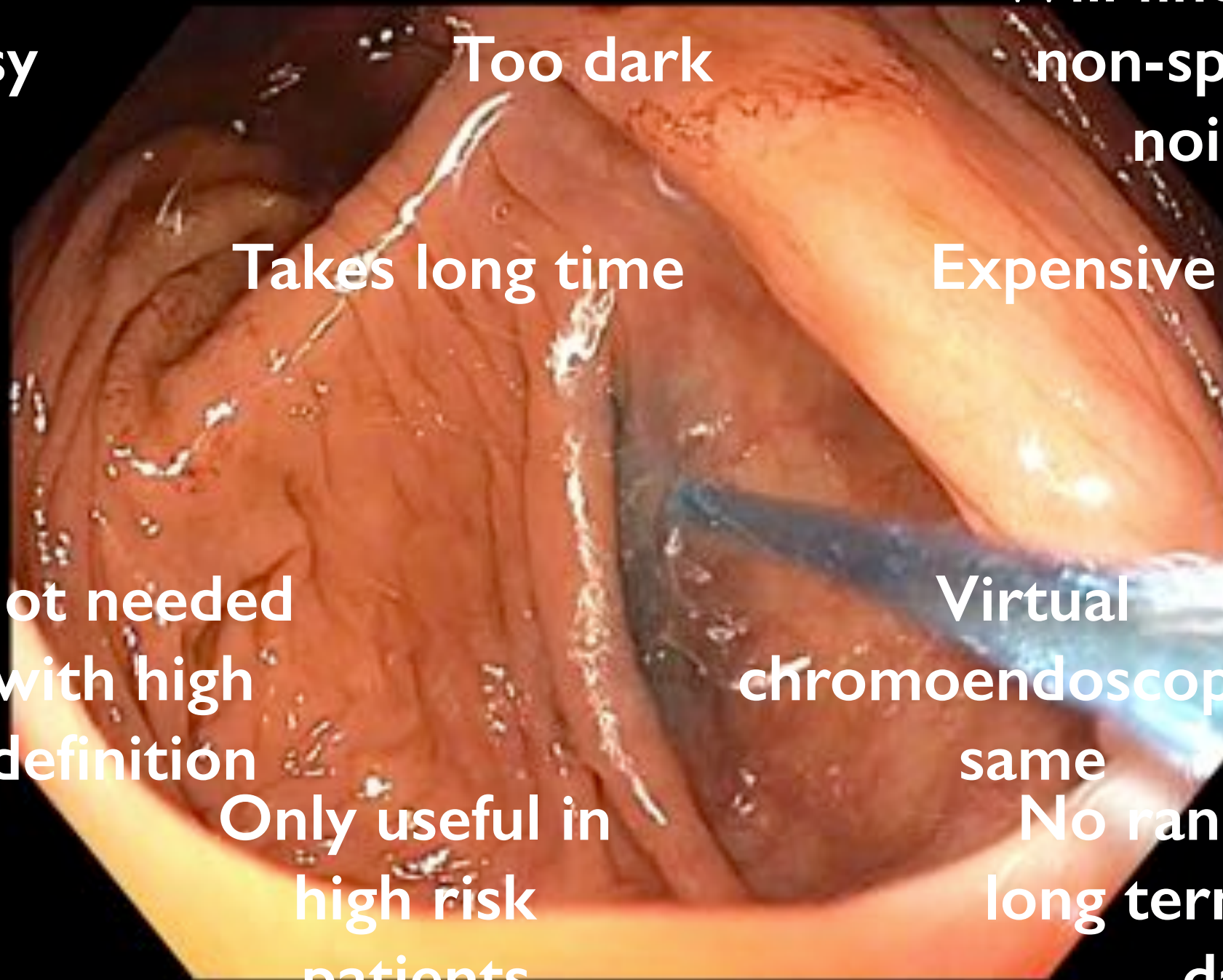
**Expensive**

**Not needed  
with high  
definition**

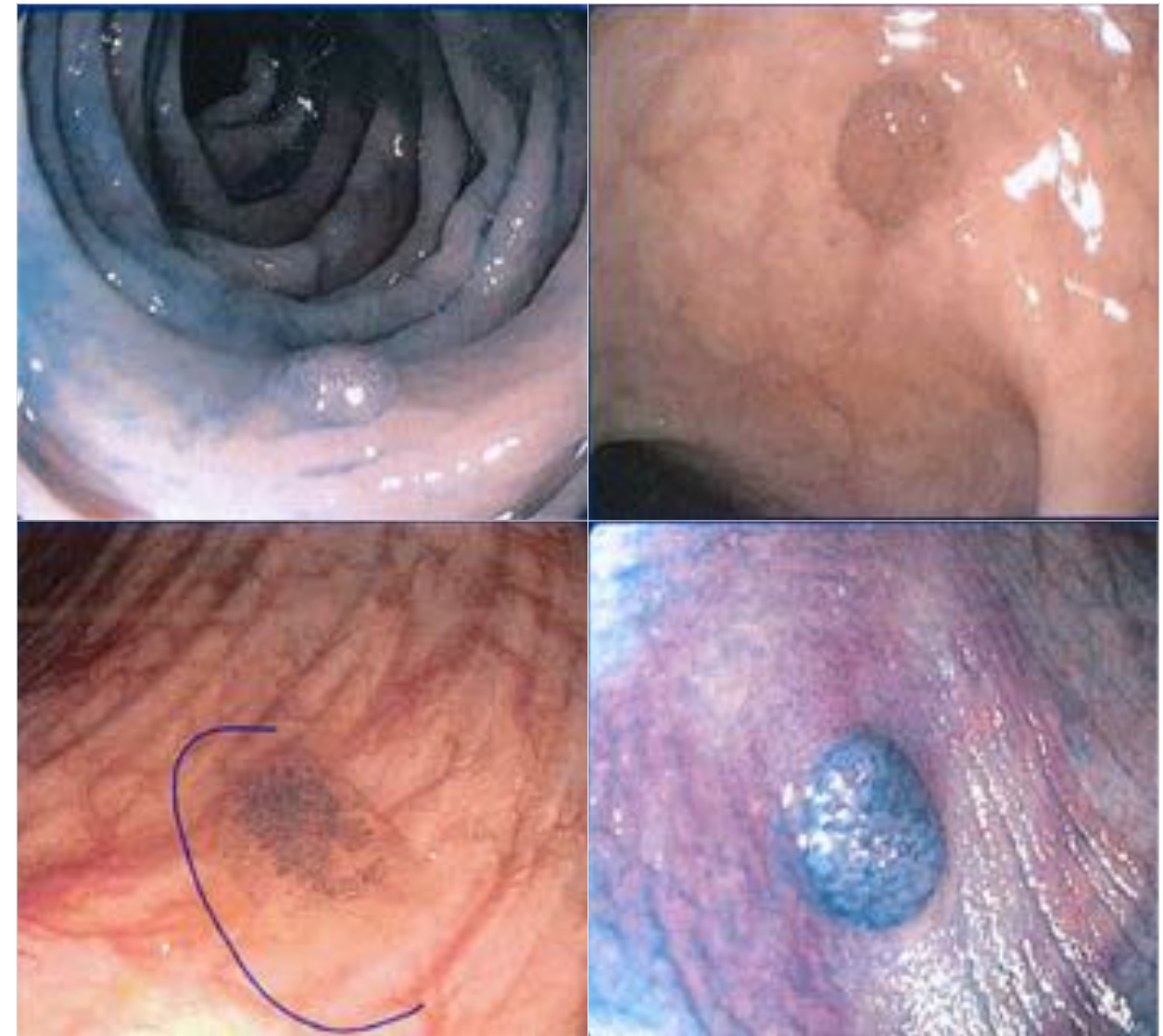
**Virtual  
chromoendoscopy is  
same**

**Only useful in  
high risk  
patients**

**No randomized  
long term survival  
data**









**METHYLENE BLUE MMX® INCREASES ADENOMA  
DETECTION RATE IN SCREENING AND SURVEILLANCE  
COLONOSCOPY- A MULTI-CENTRE, MULTINATIONAL,  
PLACEBO CONTROLLED, RANDOMISED, DOUBLE-  
BLIND AT RANDOMISATION, PARALLEL-GROUP, PHASE  
III STUDY**

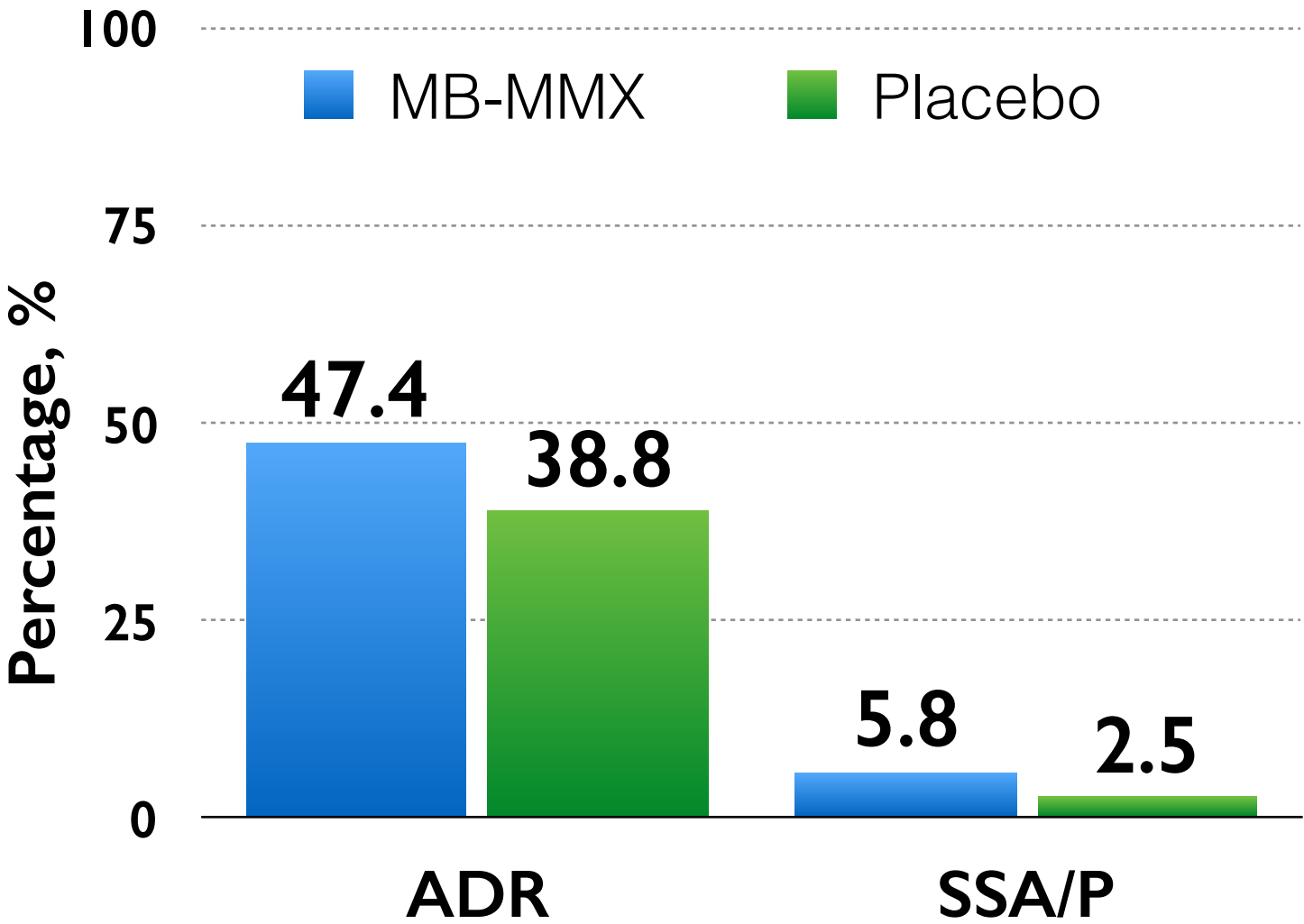


Alessandro Repici<sup>1</sup>, Michael B. Wallace<sup>2</sup>, James East<sup>3</sup>, Prateek Sharma<sup>4</sup>,  
Raf Bisschops<sup>5</sup>, Francisco C. Ramirez<sup>6</sup>, David H. Bruining<sup>7</sup>,  
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Peter D. Siersema<sup>16</sup>, Manon Spaander<sup>17</sup>, Limas Kupcinskas<sup>18</sup>,  
Franco Radaelli<sup>19</sup>, Pradeep Bhandari<sup>20</sup>, Michael Vieth<sup>21</sup>, Cesare Hassan<sup>22</sup>

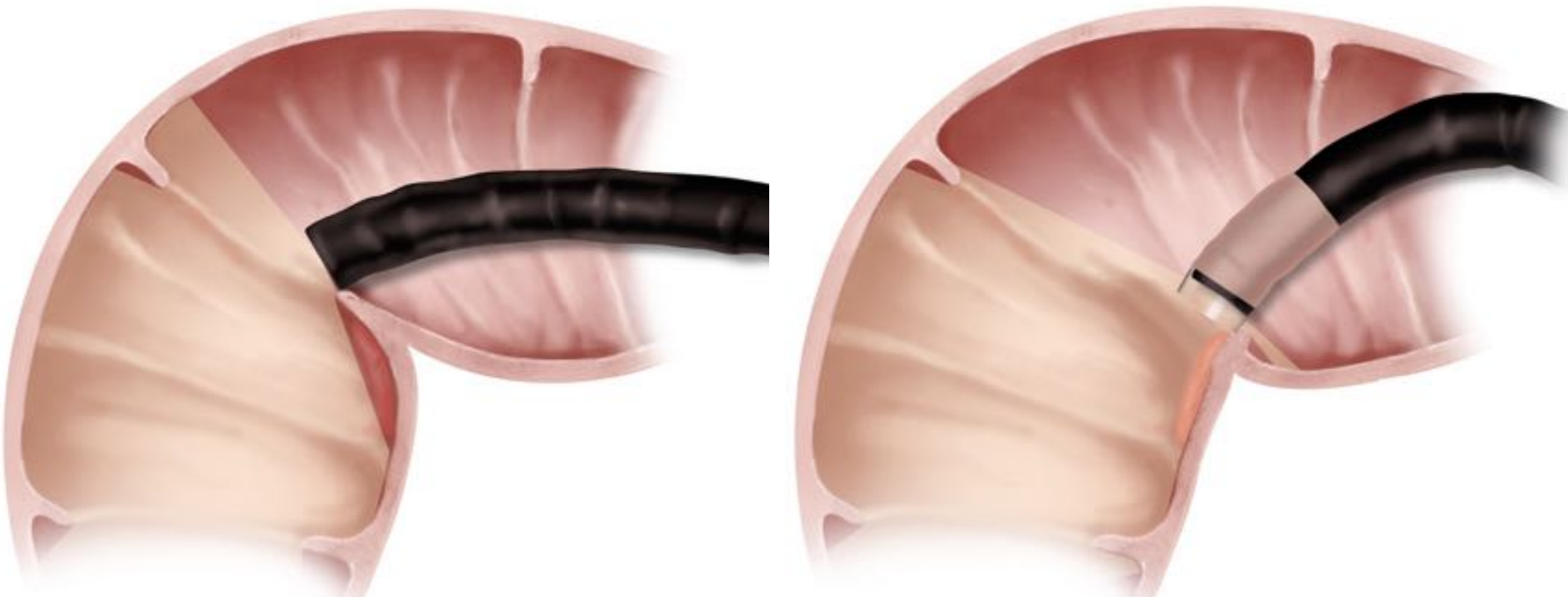
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Bayreuth GmbH, Bayreuth, Germany; <sup>22</sup>Nuovo Regina Margherita  
Hospital, Rome, Italy

Introduction: Widespread application of blue dye to the mucosal surface of the co-  
lon (pan-colonic chromoendoscopy) has been shown to increase the detection of  
colorectal neoplasia in patients at average or increased risk of CRC. A new formu-  
lation of methylene blue powder incorporated in a MMX tablet for target release of  
the dye at colonic level has been developed and tested in phase I and II studies. We  
conducted this international multi-center, placebo controlled, randomized, double-  
blind (at randomization), parallel-group Phase III FDA registration study to assess  
the efficacy and safety of MB-MMX® for CRC screening and surveillance. Methods:  
In 20 centers, 50-75 years old subjects scheduled for CRC screening or surveillance  
high-definition white-light colonoscopy were randomized between 200 mg MB-  
MMX®, placebo, or 100 mg MB-MMX® in a ratio of 2:2:1. The 100 mg MB-MMX®  
arm was only for masking purposes at the request of the FDA, and it was excluded in  
the statistical analysis. MB-MMX® and placebo tablets were administered with a day-  
before regimen of 4 liters of polyethylene glycol-based bowel preparation. Central-  
ized reading of endoscopic videos and pathological samples were adopted to  
minimize operator-related bias. The primary endpoint was the proportion of pa-  
tients with at least one histologically proven adenoma or carcinoma (ADR), while the  
false positive rate (i.e. rate of resections for non-neoplastic polyps), additional per-

# Methylene Blue MMX



# Use of Cap





OPEN ACCESS

## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Improved adenoma detection with Endocuff Vision: the ADENOMA randomised controlled trial

Wee Sing Ngu,<sup>1</sup> Roisin Bevan,<sup>2</sup> Zacharias P Tsiamoulos,<sup>3</sup> Paul Bassett,<sup>4</sup> Zoë Hoare,<sup>5</sup> Matthew D Rutter,<sup>2</sup> Gayle Clifford,<sup>1</sup> Nicola Totton,<sup>5</sup> Thomas J Lee,<sup>6</sup> Arvind Ramadas,<sup>7</sup> John G Silcock,<sup>8</sup> John Painter,<sup>9</sup> Laura J Neilson,<sup>1</sup> Brian P Saunders,<sup>3</sup> Colin J Rees<sup>1,10</sup>

## ABSTRACT

**Objective** Low adenoma detection rates (ADR) are linked to increased postcolonoscopy colorectal cancer rates and reduced cancer survival. Devices to enhance mucosal visualisation such as Endocuff Vision (EV) may improve ADR. This multicentre randomised controlled trial compared ADR between EV-assisted colonoscopy (EAC) and standard colonoscopy (SC).

**Design** Patients referred because of symptoms, surveillance or following a positive faecal occult blood test (FOBT) as part of the Bowel Cancer Screening Programme were recruited from seven hospitals. ADR, mean adenomas per procedure, size and location of adenomas, sessile serrated polyps, EV removal rate, caecal intubation rate, procedural time, patient experience, effect of EV on workload and adverse events were measured.

**Results** 1772 patients (57% male, mean age 62 years) were recruited over 16 months with 45% recruited through screening. EAC increased ADR globally from 36.2% to 40.9% (P=0.02). The increase was driven by a 10.8% increase in FOBT-positive screening patients (50.9% SC vs 61.7% EAC, P<0.001). EV patients had higher detection of mean adenomas per procedure, sessile serrated polyps, left-sided, diminutive, small adenomas and cancers (cancer 4.1% vs 2.3%, P=0.02). EV removal rate was 4.1%. Median intubation was a minute quicker with EAC (P=0.001), with no difference in caecal intubation rate or withdrawal time. EAC was well tolerated but caused a minor increase in discomfort on anal intubation in patients undergoing colonoscopy with no or minimal sedation. There were no significant EV adverse events.

**Conclusion** EV significantly improved ADR in bowel cancer screening patients and should be used to improve colonoscopic detection.

**Trial registration number** NCT 02552017, Results; ISRCTN 11821044, Results.

## INTRODUCTION

Adenoma detection rate (ADR) is the most important marker of colonoscopy quality.<sup>1 2</sup> Low ADR correlates with higher postcolonoscopy colorectal cancer (PCCRC) rates and poorer outcomes.<sup>3-7</sup> Measures to improve ADR such as optimising bowel preparation, slower withdrawal time, use of antispasmodics, improved training, position change and new technologies to improve mucosal visualisation have been developed.<sup>8-13</sup>

Lesions located on the proximal side of colonic folds present a particular problem and established

## Significance of this study

## What is already known about this subject?

► We searched PubMed and MEDLINE for English language publications in humans up to October 2016 for randomised controlled trials (RCT), open and observational studies of Endocuff and Endocuff Vision. We identified four case series studies and four multicentre RCT using the original Endocuff. Findings from case series reported that Endocuff provided more stability during mucosectomy, improved Mean number of Adenomas detected per Procedure (MAP) and resulted in adenoma detection rates (ADR) of up to 44.7%. However, small, superficial, 'scratch-like' mucosal lesions were observed, especially in the ileocaecal region in 30% of patients. Two multicentre RCTs from Germany and one from the USA reported an ADR increase of 14%, 85% and 16.6% with Endocuff-assisted colonoscopy. However, the largest multicentre RCT was a Dutch study of 1063 procedures, which reported no significant difference in ADR but a higher MAP with Endocuff-assisted colonoscopy. A single-centre trial of Endocuff Vision has recently reported no improvement in ADR, but this was a small study. No multicentre RCTs of the second-generation Endocuff Vision, as used in this trial, have been published.

## What are the new findings?

► We present findings from the first multicentre RCT comparing Endocuff Vision-assisted colonoscopy with standard colonoscopy in patients attending for symptomatic, surveillance and Bowel Cancer Screening Programme colonoscopy. Thus, this is the first study to demonstrate improved ADR with Endocuff Vision.

manoeuvres such as retroflexion may not be possible in much of the colon.<sup>12 13</sup> Devices that attach to the tip of the scope have been created to flatten folds but have not been demonstrated to consistently improve ADR.<sup>14</sup>

Endocuff Vision (EV) (figure 1) is a polypropylene device mounted onto the distal tip of a colonoscope.

## Use of Endocuff Cap



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<sup>10</sup>Northern Institute for Cancer Research, Newcastle University, Newcastle, UK

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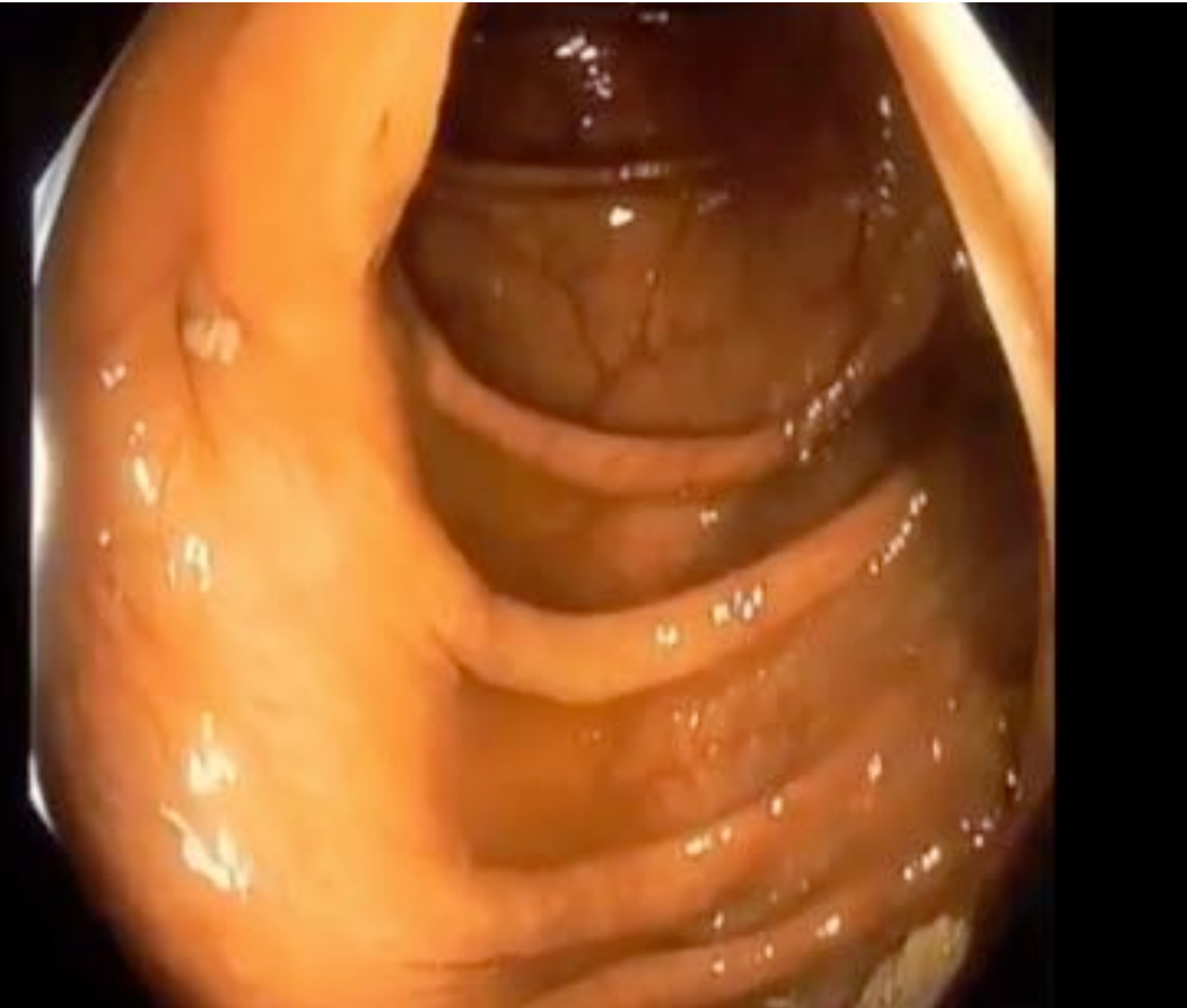
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# Use of Endocuff Cap



## Meta-Analysis:

12 RCTs (8376 patients) comparing Endocuff assisted colonoscopy with standard colonoscopy, up to Dec 2017.

## ADR significantly increased:

RR 1.2 (95%CI: 1.06-1.36,  $p=0.003$ )

Endocuff, 41.3%,  
Standard, 34.2%

## Operators:

Low-to-moderate ADRs (< 35 %):

RR = 1.51 (95 %CI 1.35 - 1.69;  $P < 0.001$ )

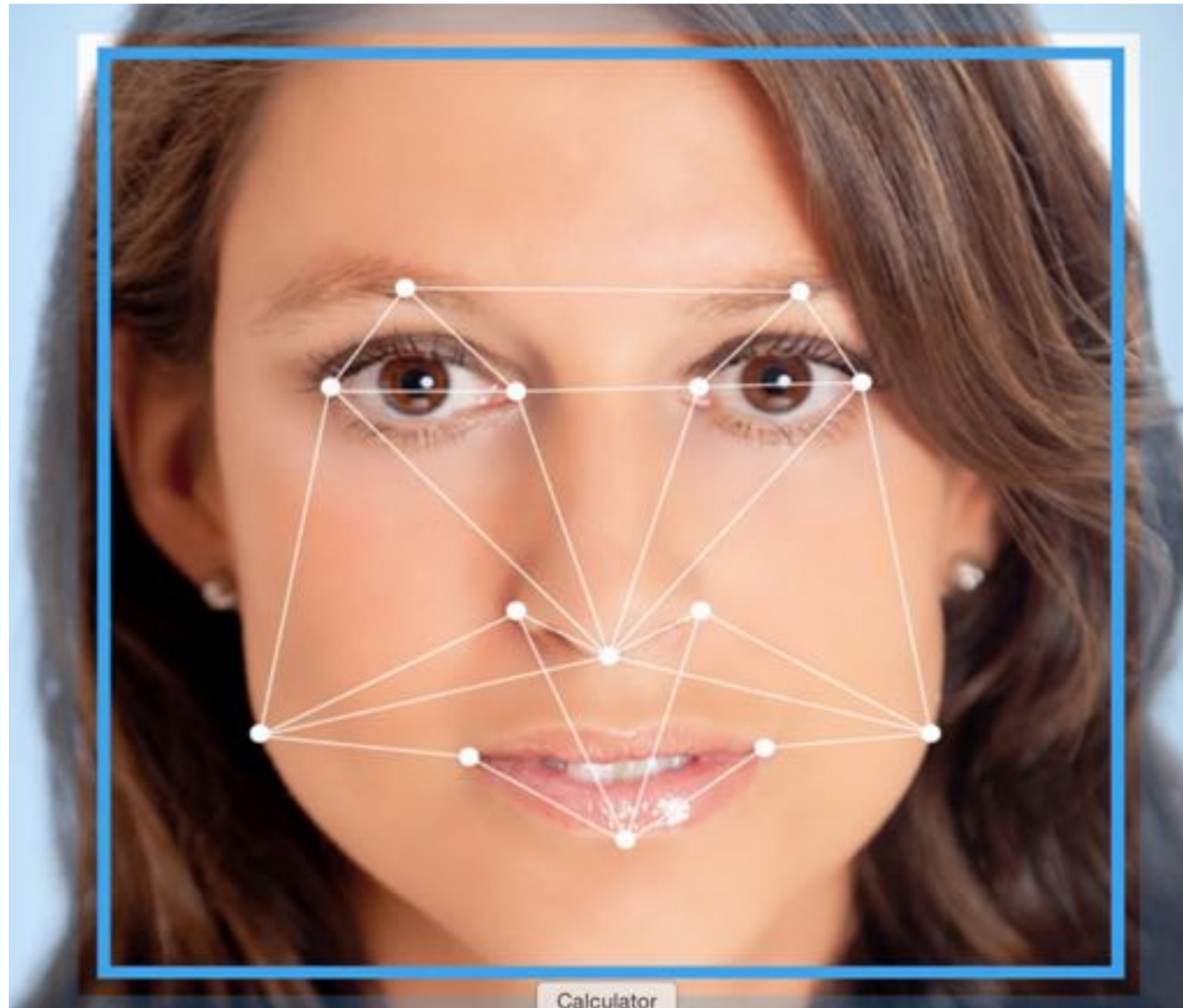
High ADRs (> 45 %):

RR = 1.01 (95 %CI 0.93 - 1.09;  $P = 0.87$ )



# Can Computers Aid Our in Detection of Colon Polyps?

# Phone Face Recognition - Why not Polyps?





a joint development from  
**Cadens, Imagia, Satis**

**Polyp detection**

**White light and NBI**

unaltered footage in real time

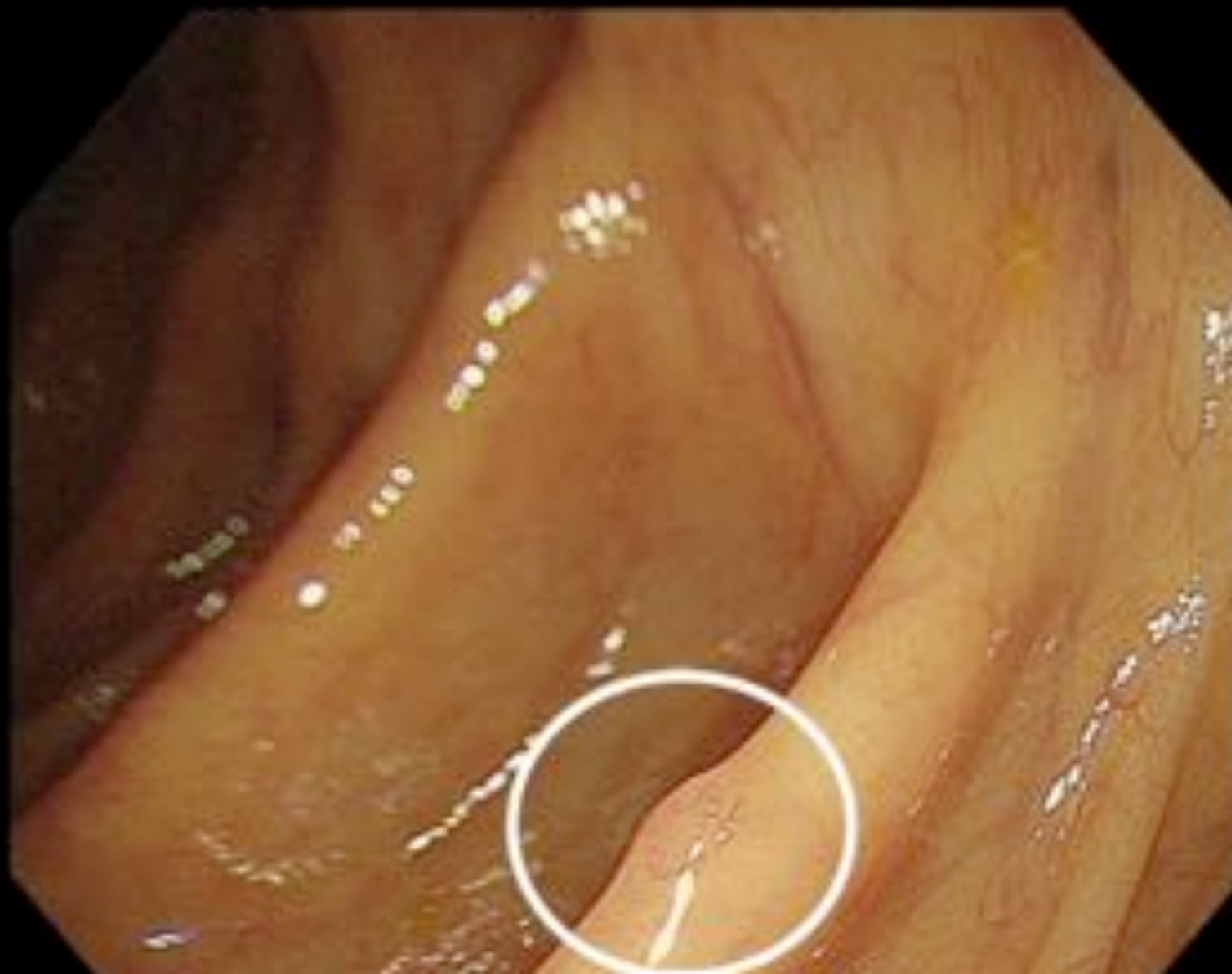
## Artificial Intelligence-Assisted Polyp Detection for Colonoscopy: Initial Experience



Masashi Misawa,<sup>1</sup> Shin-ei Kudo,<sup>1</sup> Yuichi Mori,<sup>1</sup> Tomonari Cho,<sup>1</sup> Shinichi Kataoka,<sup>1</sup> Akihiro Yamauchi,<sup>1</sup> Yushi Ogawa,<sup>1</sup> Yasuharu Maeda,<sup>1</sup> Kenichi Takeda,<sup>1</sup> Katsuro Ichimasa,<sup>1</sup> Hiroki Nakamura,<sup>1</sup> Yusuke Yagawa,<sup>1</sup> Naoya Toyoshima,<sup>1</sup> Noriyuki Ogata,<sup>1</sup> Toyoki Kudo,<sup>1</sup> Tomokazu Hisayuki,<sup>1</sup> Takemasa Hayashi,<sup>1</sup> Kunihiro Wakamura,<sup>1</sup> Toshiyuki Baba,<sup>1</sup> Fumio Ishida,<sup>1</sup> Hayato Itoh,<sup>2</sup> Holger Roth,<sup>2</sup> Masahiro Oda,<sup>2</sup> and Kensaku Mori<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Digestive Disease Center, Showa University Northern Yokohama Hospital, Yokohama, <sup>2</sup>Graduate School of Informatics, Nagoya University, Nagoya, Japan

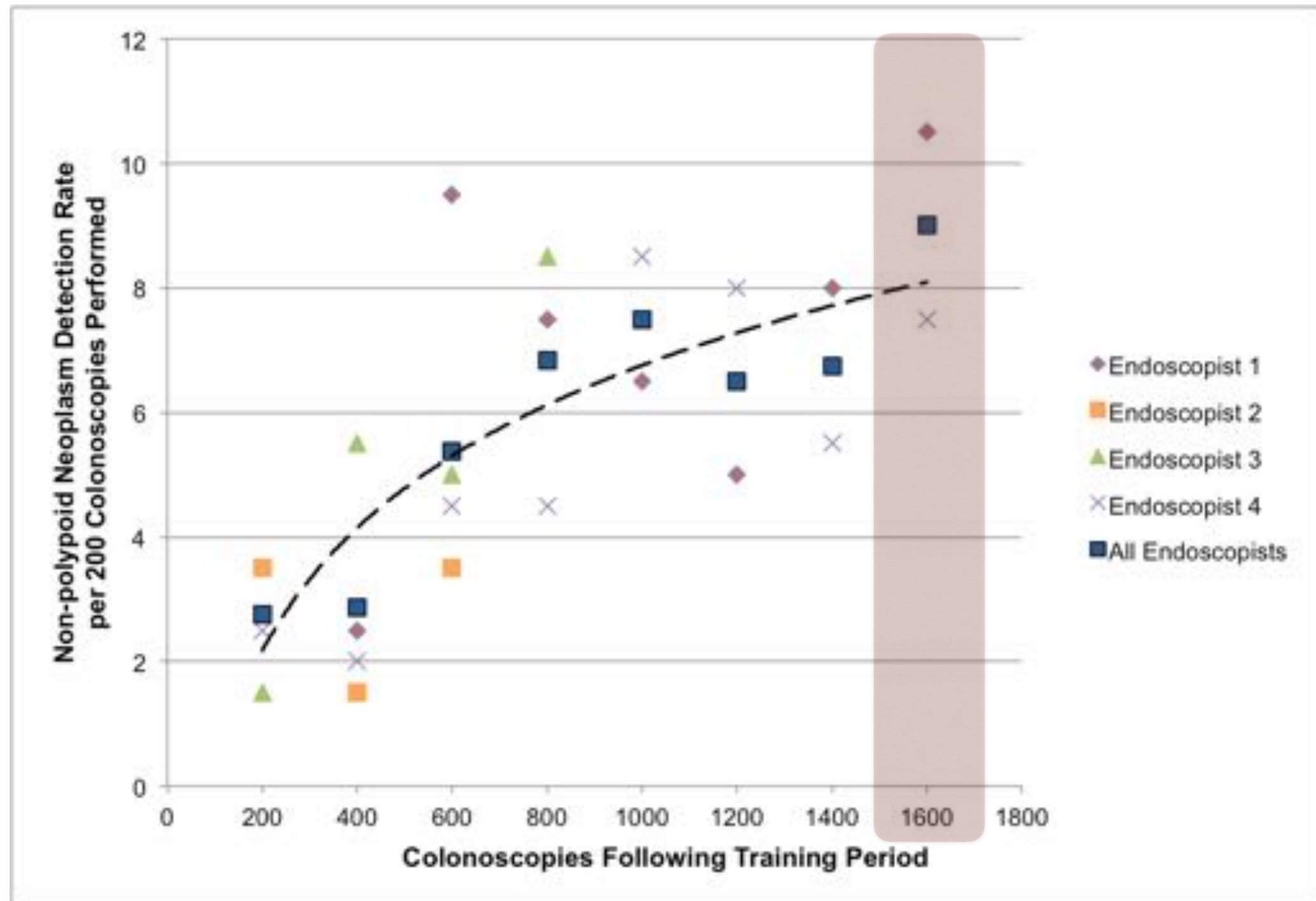
## Ascending colon, 2mm, 0-IIa lesion





# Adenoma Detection is Not Innate

## Training & Monitoring is Important



CME

# An Endoscopic Quality Improvement Program Improves Detection of Colorectal Adenomas

Susan G. Coe, MD<sup>1</sup>, Julia E. Crook, PhD<sup>2</sup>, Nancy N. Diehl, BS<sup>2</sup> and Michael B. Wallace, MD, MPH<sup>1</sup>

**OBJECTIVES:** Adenoma detection rate (ADR) is a key measure of quality in colonoscopy. Low ADRs are associated with development of interval cancer after “negative” colonoscopy. Uncontrolled studies mandating longer withdrawal time, and other incentives, have not significantly improved ADR. We hypothesized that an endoscopist training program would increase ADRs.

**METHODS:** Our Endoscopic Quality Improvement Program (EQUIP) was an educational intervention for staff endoscopists. We measured ADRs for a baseline period, then randomly assigned half of the 15 endoscopists to undergo EQUIP training. We then examined baseline and post-training study ADRs for all endoscopists (trained and un-trained) to evaluate the impact of training. A total of 1,200 procedures were completed in each of the two study phases.

**RESULTS:** Patient characteristics were similar between randomization groups and between study phases. The overall ADR in baseline phase was 36% for both groups of endoscopists. In the post-training phase, the group of endoscopists randomized to EQUIP training had an increase in ADR to 47%, whereas the ADR for the group of endoscopists who were not trained remained unchanged at 35%. The effect of training on the endoscopist-specific ADRs was estimated with an odds ratio of 1.73 (95% confidence interval 1.24–2.41,  $P=0.0013$ ).

**CONCLUSIONS:** Our results indicate that ADRs can be improved considerably through simple educational efforts. Ultimately, a trial involving a larger number of endoscopists is needed to validate the utility of our training methods and determine whether improvements in ADRs lead to reduced colorectal cancer.

**SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL** is linked to the online version of the paper at <http://www.nature.com/ajg>

*Am J Gastroenterol* 2013; 108:219–226; doi:10.1038/ajg.2012.417; published online 8 January 2013

## INTRODUCTION

Screening colonoscopy and other screening methods have been largely credited for the recent decline in the incidence and death rates of colorectal cancer (CRC). Despite this decline, CRC is projected to remain third among cancers for both men and women in 2011 (1).

Although colonoscopy remains an effective method of CRC screening and prevention (2), it is imperfect. Adenoma miss rates have been estimated to be as high as 24% in tandem colonoscopy studies (3,4). One large population study estimated the risk of a new CRC diagnosis within 3 years of negative screening colonoscopy to be as high as 6% (5). Right-sided lesions, flat polyps, and variability in endoscopist quality measures are all potential reasons why interval cancers develop (5–8). The adenoma detection rate

(ADR) is a validated predictor of development of interval CRC risk after screening colonoscopy (9). However, wide variability still exists between endoscopists in this important measure (10–12).

Technical-, patient-, and provider-related factors have all been explored to explain differences in adenoma detection. Adequacy of bowel preparation, withdrawal time, and time of day have all been associated with adenoma rates and their detection (13–16). The performing endoscopist, independent of patient-related factors, has recently been shown to strongly influence adenoma detection (17). Endoscopist behaviors, such as time spent on inspection, looking behind folds, cleansing, and distention of the colon, are also associated with higher adenoma detectors (18,19). Despite this knowledge, there remains little data on how to improve adenoma detection among individual endoscopists.

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The material in this manuscript was presented at the ACG Annual Scientific Meeting in Washington DC, in October 2011 as a Presidential Plenary oral presentation and won a 2011 ACG/Olympus Colorectal Cancer prevention award.

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OPEN ACCESS

► Additional material is published online only. To view please visit the journal online (<http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/gutjnl-2014-307503>).

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## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

# Leadership training to improve adenoma detection rate in screening colonoscopy: a randomised trial

Michal F Kaminski,<sup>1</sup> John Anderson,<sup>2</sup> Roland Valori,<sup>3</sup> Ewa Kraszewska,<sup>1</sup> Maciej Rupinski,<sup>1</sup> Jacek Pachlewski,<sup>1</sup> Ewa Wronska,<sup>1</sup> Michael Bretthauer,<sup>4,5</sup> Siwan Thomas-Gibson,<sup>6</sup> Ernst J Kuipers,<sup>7</sup> Jaroslaw Regula<sup>1</sup>

## ABSTRACT

**Objective** Suboptimal adenoma detection rate (ADR) at colonoscopy is associated with increased risk of interval colorectal cancer. It is uncertain how ADR might be improved. We compared the effect of leadership training versus feedback only on colonoscopy quality in a countrywide randomised trial.

**Design** 40 colonoscopy screening centres with suboptimal performance in the Polish screening programme (centre leader ADR  $\leq 25\%$  during preintervention phase January to December 2011) were randomised to either a Train-Colonoscopy-Leaders (TCLs) programme (assessment, hands-on training, post-training feedback) or feedback only (individual quality measures). Colonoscopies performed June to December 2012 (early postintervention) and January to December 2013 (late postintervention) were used to calculate changes in quality measures. Primary outcome was change in leaders' ADR. Mixed effect models using ORs and 95% CIs were computed.

**Results** The study included 24 582 colonoscopies performed by 38 leaders and 56 617 colonoscopies performed by 138 endoscopists at the participating centres. The absolute difference between the TCL and feedback groups in mean ADR improvement of leaders was 7.1% and 4.2% in early and late postintervention phases, respectively. The TCL group had larger improvement in ADR in early (OR 1.61; 95% CI 1.29 to 2.01;  $p<0.001$ ) and late (OR 1.35; 95% CI 1.10 to 1.66;  $p=0.004$ ) postintervention phases. In the late postintervention phase, the absolute difference between the TCL and feedback groups in mean ADR improvement of entire centres was 3.9% (OR 1.25; 95% CI 1.04 to 1.50;  $p=0.017$ ).

**Conclusions** Teaching centre leaders in colonoscopy training improved important quality measures in screening colonoscopy.

**Trial registration number** NCT01667198.

## INTRODUCTION

During recent years, several studies have shown that important patient outcome measures such as interval cancer rates after screening colonoscopy or mortality after cancer surgery are related to quality of hospitals and individual physicians.<sup>1–3</sup> However, there is a lack of high quality studies investigating the effect of quality improvement interventions on patient outcome measures.

Screening colonoscopy is widely used for prevention and early detection of colorectal cancer (CRC).<sup>4</sup> High quality colonoscopy achieving

## Significance of this study

### What is already known on this subject?

- Suboptimal adenoma detection at colonoscopy is associated with increased risk of interval colorectal cancer and colorectal cancer death.
- Interventions targeting endoscopist performance have been generally ineffective for improving adenoma detection rates.
- One small study performed at single academic institution showed adenoma detection rate improvement with training.

### What are the new findings?

- Dedicated Train-Colonoscopy-Leaders course significantly improved adenoma detection rate, proximal adenoma detection rate and non-polypoid lesion detection rate in screening colonoscopy.
- The training of screening centre leaders in teaching high quality colonoscopy changed their own practice and had also significant effect on overall centre performance.
- The Train-Colonoscopy-Leaders course had sustained effect on colonoscopy performance over 1.5 years.

### How might it impact on clinical practice in the foreseeable future?

- Developed training curriculum may help to improve adenoma detection rate and non-polypoid lesion detection rate at colonoscopy.

accurate detection and removal of adenomas is considered the key to screening efficacy.<sup>5–7</sup> Professional societies recommend that endoscopists measure quality indicators such as adenoma detection rate (ADR), caecal intubation rate (CIR) and colonoscopy withdrawal time.<sup>6–7</sup> We have previously shown that an individual endoscopist's ADR is an independent predictor for interval cancer after screening colonoscopy.<sup>1</sup> Recently, a large US study confirmed this association and expanded it to include CRC death.<sup>3</sup> Thus, adenoma detection is of paramount importance for the success of CRC screening programmes. However, it has been uncertain how to improve ADR in endoscopists with suboptimal performance.

# **Major Issues in US Colonoscopy for Cost-Effective Colorectal Cancer Prevention**

1. Some are not measuring ADR
2. Incomplete uptake of split bowel prep dosing
3. Use of shortened surveillance intervals
4. Ineffective polypectomy technique
5. Surgical resection of benign colorectal polyps

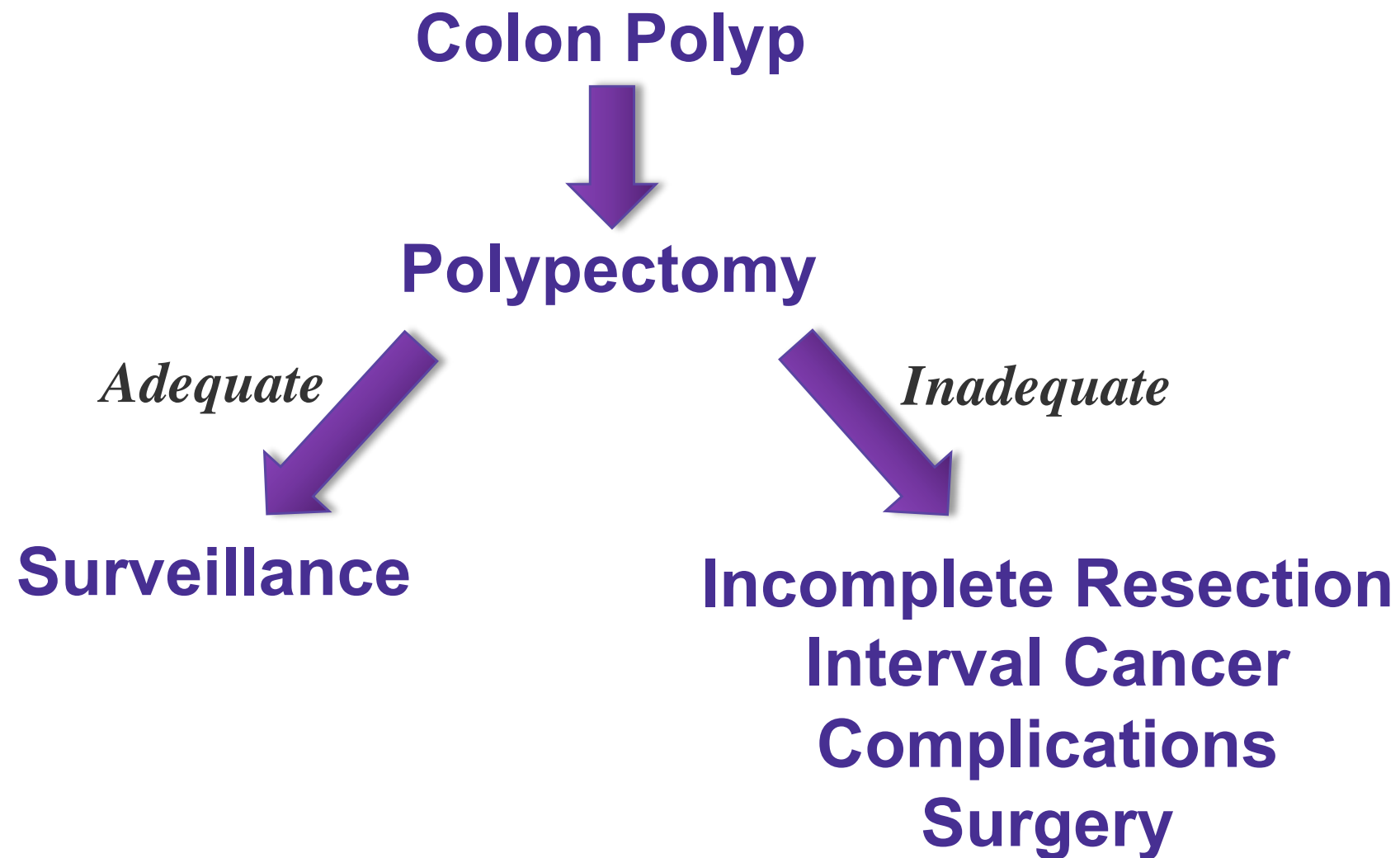


# Colon Cancer Prevention

Colorectal cancer  
prevention through  
detection and removal  
of colon polyps



# Consequences of Inadequate Polypectomy



# Variable performance in polypectomy

- **CARE study - Gastro 2013**
  - 3 fold variation in resection efficacy
  - range of incomplete resection 7-22%
- **Duloy et al - GIE 2017**
  - 3 fold variation in technical competency
  - Range of competent resection 30-90%
  - No association of polypectomy competency with ADR or withdrawal time



## Assessing colon polypectomy competency and its association with established quality metrics

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**Background and Aims:** Inadequate polypectomy leads to incomplete resection, interval colorectal cancer, and adverse events. However, polypectomy competency is rarely reported, and quality metrics are lacking. The primary aims of this study were to assess polypectomy competency among a cohort of gastroenterologists and to measure the correlation between polypectomy competency and established colonoscopy quality metrics (adenoma detection rate and withdrawal time).

**Methods:** We conducted a prospective observational study to assess polypectomy competency among 13 high-volume screening colonoscopists at an academic medical center. Over 6 weeks, we made video recordings of  $\geq 28$  colonoscopies per colonoscopist and randomly selected 10 polypectomies per colonoscopist for evaluation. Two raters graded the polypectomies by using the Direct Observation of Polypectomy Skills, a polypectomy competency assessment tool, which assesses individual polypectomy skills and overall competency.

**Results:** We evaluated 130 polypectomies. A total of 83 polypectomies (64%) were rated as competent, which was more likely for diminutive (70%) than small and/or large polyps (50%,  $P = .03$ ). Overall Direct Observation of Polypectomy Skills competency scores varied significantly among colonoscopists ( $P = .001$ ), with overall polypectomy competency rates ranging between 30% and 90%. Individual skills scores, such as accurately directing the snare over the lesion ( $P = .02$ ) and trapping an appropriate amount of tissue within the snare ( $P = .001$ ) varied significantly between colonoscopists. Polypectomy competency rates did not significantly correlate with the adenoma detection rate ( $r = 0.4$ ;  $P = .2$ ) or withdrawal time ( $r = 0.2$ ;  $P = .5$ ).

**Conclusions:** Polypectomy competency varies significantly among colonoscopists and does not sufficiently correlate with established quality metrics. Given the clinical implications of suboptimal polypectomy, efforts to educate colonoscopists in polypectomy techniques and develop a metric of polypectomy quality are needed. (Gastrointest Endosc 2018;87:635-44.)

Colonoscopy reduces colorectal cancer (CRC) incidence and mortality through the detection and removal of precancerous polyps in the colon.<sup>1</sup> The majority of colonoscopy quality improvement efforts have focused on improving polyp detection.<sup>2</sup> In contrast, little work has focused on ensuring effective colon polyp resection. Unfortunately, incomplete polypectomy may occur in a significant proportion of patients undergoing colonoscopy. In a

prospective study of 1427 patients undergoing colonoscopy, approximately 10% of polyps were incompletely resected.<sup>3</sup> An ineffective polypectomy technique may lead to costly referral to surgery<sup>4</sup> or even interval CRC. It is estimated that up to 30% of interval CRCs may be due to incomplete polyp resection.<sup>5</sup> Thus, it is imperative that we ensure that all colonoscopists can remove polyps effectively.

**Abbreviations:** ADR, adenoma detection rate; CRC, colorectal cancer; DOPyS, Direct Observation of Polypectomy Skills.

**DISCLOSURE:** T. Kaltenbach is a consultant for Olympus America. R. Keswani is a consultant for Boston Scientific, Cook Medical, and Medtronic. All other authors disclosed no financial relationships relevant to this publication.

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# Polypectomy Competency

Assessed polypectomy competency among a cohort of 13 attending gastroenterologists using the DOPyS tool

Measured the correlation between polypectomy competency and established quality metrics – adenoma detection rate (ADR) and withdrawal time (WT)

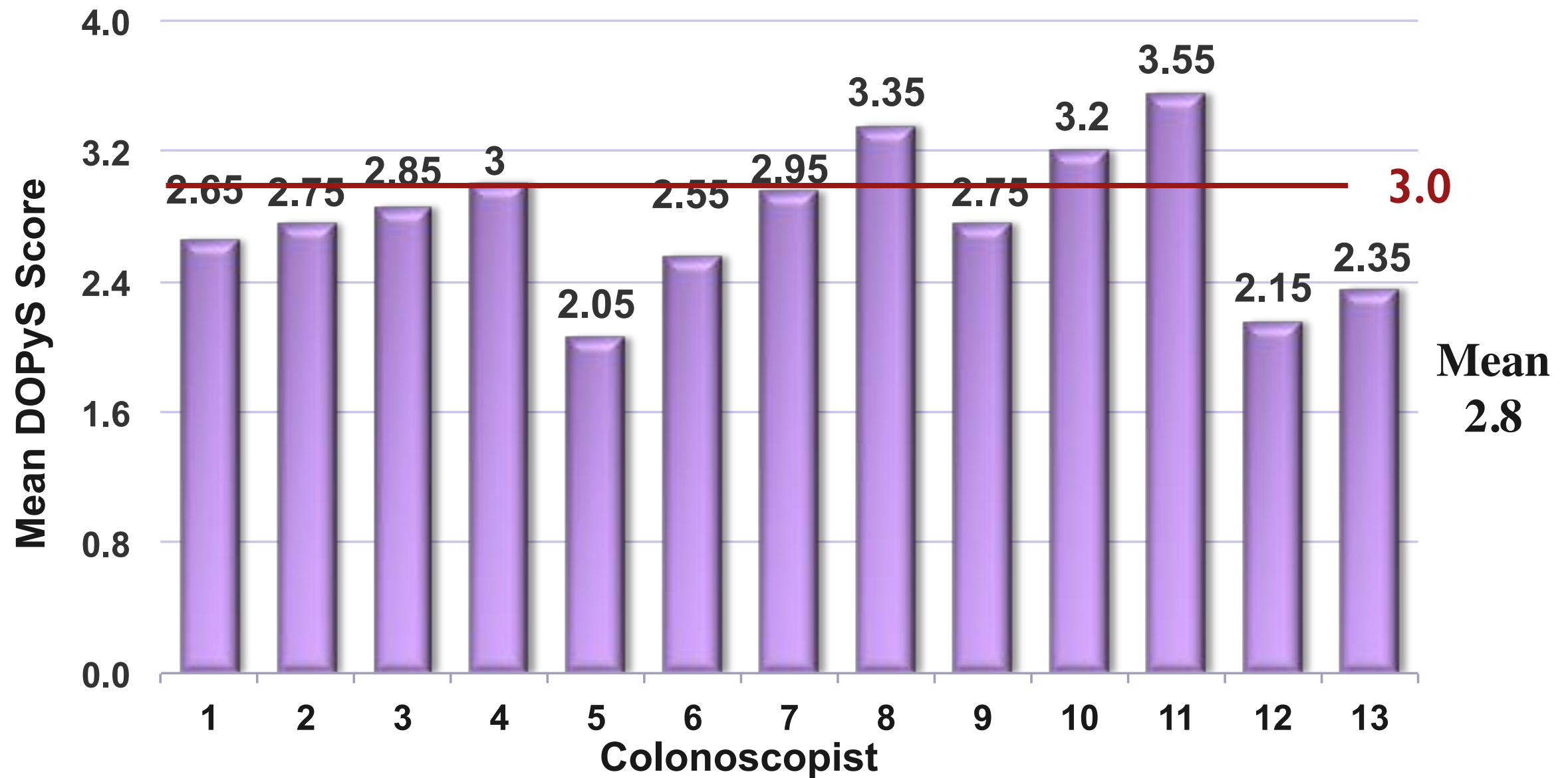
# Validated Polypectomy Competency Assessment Tool - DOPyS

## Direct Observation of Polypectomy Skills (DOPyS)

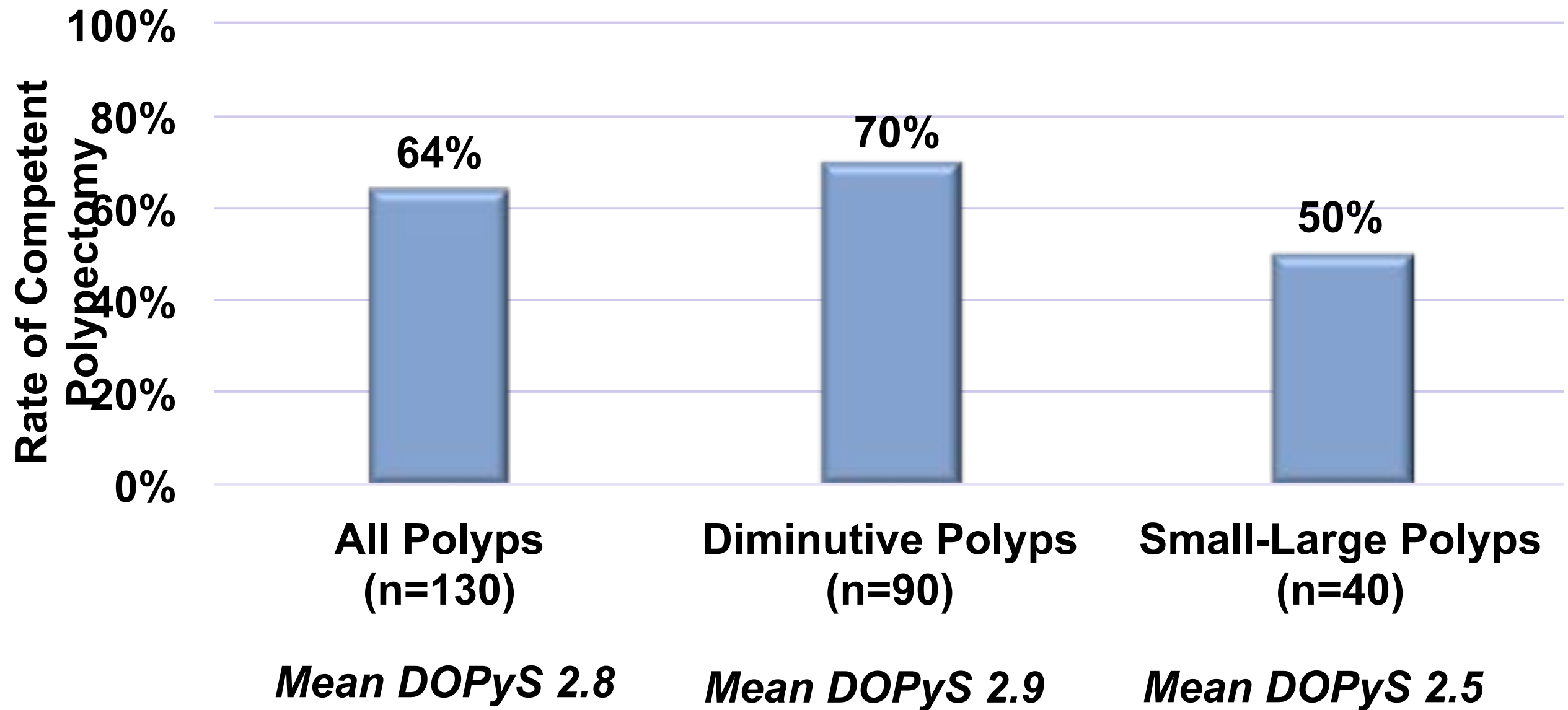
33 individual skills and overall polypectomy competency  
graded from 1-4, with a score  $\geq 3$  denoting competency

Skill	Descriptors
Achieves optimal polyp view and position	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ensures clear views by aspiration/insufflation/wash</li><li>• Maintains optimal polyp position (5-6 o'clock)</li><li>• Takes appropriate action for position correction and clear views throughout the procedure</li></ul>

# Polypectomy competency varied significantly between colonoscopists



# Low Rate of Competent Polypectomy





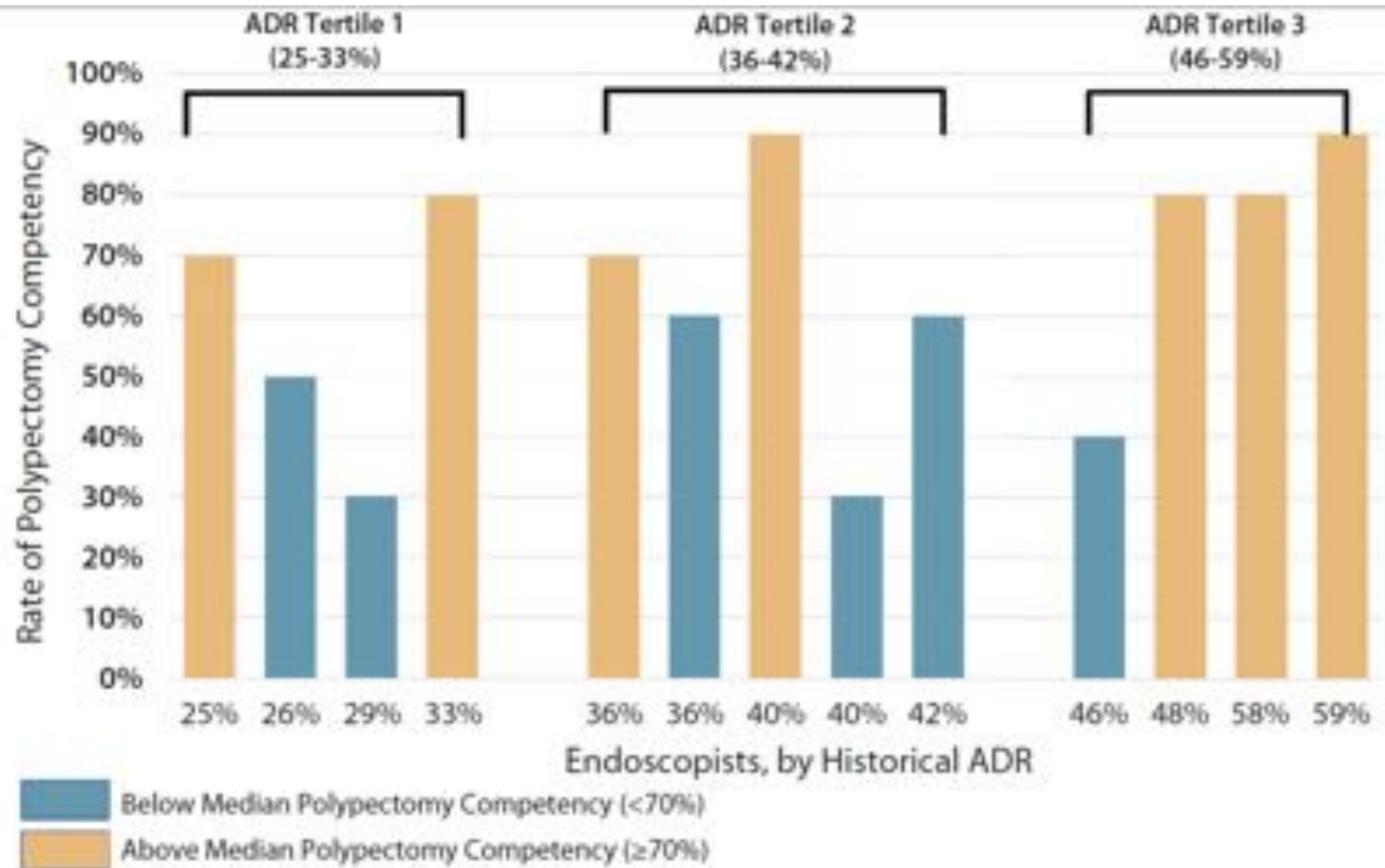
# Individual Skill Polypectomy Competency, n=130

Skill	% Competent	Variation Among Colonoscopists
<i>Achieves optimal polyp position</i>	61%	p<0.001
<i>Determines full extent of polyp</i>	72%	p<0.04
<i>Uses appropriate technique</i>	70%	NS
<i>Adjusts/stabilizes scope position</i>	58%	p=0.001
<i>Examines remnant stalk/base</i>	57%	p<0.001
<i>Identifies and treats residual polyp</i>	58%	p<0.001

# Individual Skill Polypectomy Competency, n=130

Skill	% Competent	Variation Among Colonoscopists
<i>Selects appropriate snare size and directs snare accurately over lesion</i>	73%	NS
<i>Correctly selects en-bloc or piecemeal removal depending on size</i>	81%	NS
<i>Appropriate amount of tissue trapped within the snare</i>	50%	p = 0.001
<i>Uses cold versus hot snare, as appropriate</i>	91%	NS

# Polypectomy competency rates do not correlate with ADR



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INTRODUCTION

- Even polypectomy technique may lead to interval colorectal cancer and/or adverse events
- Despite this, endoscopists rarely receive feedback on polypectomy technique
- In prior work, we showed that polypectomy competency varies significantly between colonoscopists and does not correlate with established colonoscopy quality metrics

WJN

- \* To determine the effect of a polypsectomy skills repeat and reuse, subsequent polypsectomy performance.

## Self-Reflection

- † We conducted a 3-phase prospective single-blinded study of colonoscopies at a single academic medical center.



## RESULTS

- We graded 220 polypsectomies (110 prior and 110 post-report cards) performed by 14 colonoscopists
- All colonoscopists reviewed their report cards and 64% watched the instructional videos

#### Polym. A: Polystyrenes of Various Molecular Weights

- Mean polyp size and number of immature (<1mm) polyps did not significantly differ between the pre- and post-report coral phases, all polyps were <1.5mm in both phases
- Most polyps were removed by cold water in both phases; however, cold water was increased significantly from the pre-to-post-report coral phase (34% to 74%,  $P=0.004$ )
- Rate of piecemeal polypectomy significantly decreased from the pre- to post-report coral phase (40% to 21%,  $P=0.004$ )

### References

- Mean DOPyS score increased significantly between the pre- and post-report card phases ( $2.7 \pm 0.4$  vs  $3.3 \pm 0.3$ ,  $P=0.01$ ); this improvement was seen for diameters ( $2.7 \pm 0.4$  vs  $3.3 \pm 0.3$ ,  $P=0.0001$ ), but not small-large polyps ( $2.7 \pm 0.7$  vs  $3.4 \pm 0.3$ ,  $P=0.3$ )
- Rate of competent polypectomy significantly improved from the pre- to post-report card phase (54% vs 69%,  $P=0.04$ ); this improvement was seen for diameters (57% vs 61%,  $P=0.001$ ), but not small-large polyps (55% vs 66%,  $P=0.2$ )

[illegible]

## CONCLUSIONS

- Report cards effectively improved polyposcopy technique, primarily due to improvements in detecting distal colonic polyps
- The improved competency and decreased piecemeal resection may reduce the risk of polyp recurrence
- Further education is needed to improve larger polyp resection



**Table 2. Overall Polypectomy Competency in the Pre- vs. Post-Report Card Phases**

	<b>Phase 2: Pre-report Card</b>	<b>Phase 3: Post-report Card</b>	<b>P-Value</b>
<b>All Polyps</b>			
Mean DOPyS Score (SD)	2.7 ± 0.87	3.0 ± 0.76	0.01
Rate of Competent Polypectomy	56.4%	69.1%	0.04
<b>Diminutive Polyps (&lt;6 mm)</b>			
Mean DOPyS Score (SD)	2.7 ± 0.91	3.3 ± 0.76	<0.0001
Rate of Competent Polypectomy (%)	56.7%	80.5%	0.001
<b>Small-to-Large Polyps (≥6 mm)</b>			
Mean DOPyS Score (SD)	2.65 ± 0.65	2.4 ± 0.93	0.3
Rate of Competent Polypectomy (%)	55.0%	35.7%	0.2

# Conclusion

- ADR is associated with quality colonoscopy -interval colorectal cancer & death.
- Competencies in detection (ADR) and polypectomy significantly vary amongst endoscopists, and improved with feedback and education.
- Now is time to measure & report quality metrics in colonoscopy.

A scenic view of the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, California. The bridge's red-orange towers and suspension cables are prominent against the blue water of the bay. In the background, the city skyline is visible under a clear blue sky with some light clouds. The foreground shows a grassy hillside.

# Thank You

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