A Retrospective Audit of Quality Indicators for Colonoscopy in the Irish National Colorectal Screening Programme

Joanna Rea, Bláthnaid Nolan, Leah Palado Vinzons, Carla Flanagan and Garret Cullen
Centre for Colorectal Disease, St. Vincent's University Hospital, Elm Park, Dublin, Ireland

Introduction

BowelScreen, the National Bowel Screening Programme, commenced in Ireland in 2012. Colonoscopy is performed on adults aged 60–69 years with a positive faecal immunohistochemical test. The programme has identified several key performance indicators for quality colonoscopy.

At least 90% of examinations should be rated as ‘adequate’ bowel cleansing or better. A caecal intubation rate of ≥90% is a minimum standard expected. The recommended withdrawal time is six minutes for negative colonoscopies (i.e. no polyps detected) with the standard set at ≥91% of colonoscopies achieved a withdrawal time of six minutes.

Summary & Conclusions

This audit of quality indicators of colonoscopy within a National Colorectal Screening Programme reveals adherence to both National and European guidelines. Withdrawal times are within the minimum standard, however we examined withdrawal time on all colonoscopies rather than just negative colonoscopies. It is also of note that Klean-Prep® appears to have a slightly better result compared to MoviPrep®.

The endoscopy team at St Vincent’s University Hospital have achieved the key performance indicators underpinning BowelScreen - The National Bowel Screening Programme.

Learning Outcomes

Endoscopy nurses have a responsibility to conform to, maintain and evaluate adherence to quality standards set locally, nationally and by professional nursing bodies. As a result of these findings, our diet sheet for MoviPrep® has been amended to reflect that of the Klean-Prep® diet sheet initially used in the unit, as this may have been a factor in the improved results seen with Klean-Prep®. A further audit of withdrawal times to include only negative colonoscopies will be carried out to ensure we achieve both National and European standards.

References