

Low yield for repeat colonoscopy in some patients

July 28 2014

(HealthDay)—Repeat colonoscopies within 10 years are of little benefit to patients who had no polyps found on adequate examination; however, repeat colonoscopies do benefit patients when the baseline examination was compromised, according to research published in the August issue of *Gastroenterology*.

David A. Lieberman, M.D., of the Oregon Health and Science University in Portland, and colleagues analyzed data for 17,525 [asymptomatic patients](#) who were found to have no polyps during a [screening colonoscopy](#) and received another colonoscopy within 10 years.

The researchers found that repeat colonoscopy within one year, typically done because of inadequate bowel preparation or incomplete exam for the baseline colonoscopy, showed a prevalence of large polyps (>9 mm) of 6.5 percent (95 percent confidence interval [CI], 5.3 to 7.6 percent). This prevalence is similar to the rate found in the average-risk screening population. Among patients with an adequate baseline examination, the incidence of large [polyps](#) upon repeat colonoscopy was 3.1 percent (95 percent CI, 2.7 to 3.5 percent) within one to five years and 3.7 percent (95 percent CI, 3.3 to 4.1 percent) within five to 10 years.

"In light of the maturing body of evidence about the strong influence of sex, race/ethnicity, and other factors (e.g., tobacco, alcohol, diet) on the risk of neoplasia, individualized risk-based screening and surveillance algorithms should be developed," write the authors of an accompanying

editorial.

The practice network has received funding from pharmaceutical and biomedical companies.

More information: [Abstract](#)
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