

Post-endoscopic infection more common than previously thought

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(HealthDay)—The rates of post-endoscopic infection within seven days

vary from 1.1 per 1,000 procedures for screening colonoscopy to 3 per 1,000 procedures for esophagogastroduodenoscopies (OGDs), according to a study published online May 31 in *Gut*.

Peiqi Wang, Ph.D., from Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, and colleagues identified [colonoscopy](#) and OGD procedures performed at ambulatory surgery centers (ASCs) in 2014 in six states. Infection-related emergency department visits and unplanned in-patient admissions were tracked within seven and 30 days after the procedures. The rates of infections were compared with those after screening mammography, [prostate cancer screening](#), bronchoscopy, and cystoscopy procedures.

The researchers found that the rates of post-endoscopic infection within seven days per 1,000 procedures were 1.1 for screening colonoscopy, 1.6 for non-screening colonoscopy, and 3 for OGD, all of which were higher than screening mammography and lower than bronchoscopy and cystoscopy (0.6 versus 15.6 and 4.4, respectively). Recent history of hospitalization or endoscopic [procedure](#), concurrence with another [endoscopic procedure](#), low procedure volume or non-freestanding ASC, younger or older age, black or Native-American race, and male sex were predictors of post-endoscopic infection. There was wide variation in rates of seven-day post-endoscopic infections, from zero to 115 per 1,000 procedures for screening colonoscopy, zero to 132 for non-screening colonoscopy, and zero to 62 for OGD.

"We found that post-endoscopic infections are more common than previously thought and vary widely by facility," the authors write.

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