

## **INCIDENCE OF COLORECTAL POLYP AND CANCER-Experience At A Community Hospital**

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**Purpose:** Colon cancer is the second most cancer killer in both men and women. The average risk is 6%. The incidence rises above age 60, but there are many reports of colon cancer at earlier age. The purpose of this study was to identify the age distribution of colon polyps and cancer at our hospital.

**Method:** We retrospectively reviewed all colorectal polyps and cancer cases diagnosed at Wyckoff Heights Medical Center between January 1998 to December 1998. Endoscopy and pathology reports were reviewed. The polyps were classified Adenoma, Adenoma with mild dysplasia, Adenoma with severe dysplasia and Adenocarcinoma.

**Reports:** The total number of patients was 94. They were divided into three groups: Group A: Age 20-39, Group B: Age 50-59, and Group C: Age 60 and above. 40% were Hispanic, 20% were black and 40% were white. 52% were plain Adenoma, 18% were mild dysplasia, 14% were moderate dysplasia and 5.5% were severe dysplasia. 6.38% patients had colon adenocarcinoma. Group A had 3% polyps (adenoma plain and mild dysplasia). Group B had 14.8%( including two carcinomas) and 68% of polyps (including 4 carcinoma were found in group C)

**Conclusion:** Our incidence of colorectal cancer is similar to what is reported in literature. Although a majority of polyps with dysplasia were above 60 years of age, dysplasia and carcinoma was found between age 40-59, and mild dysplasia was found between age 20-39.

Considering the incidence of polyps and dysplasia at earlier age, it must be cost effective to offer surveillance (with stool occult blood test) at an early stage (starting at age 20).