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Summary

A RETROSPECTIVE AUDIT OF END-TO-END QUALITY MEASURES IN ENDOSCOPY: INTERDEPENDENCE OF DETECTION RATES FOR ADENOMA AND SESSILE SERRATED ADENOMA OF ENDOSCOPISTS AND PATHOLOGISTS

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A quality improvement project at a Brisbane tertiary site demonstrated that monitoring pathologist variation in adenoma detection rates and implementing feedback with education eliminated significant inter-pathologist variation observed in 2020, with no significant relationship between pathologist and detection rates in subsequent years.

KEY POINTS

- Significant variation in adenoma detection rate among pathologists was identified in Quarter 3 2020 during routine quality assurance at a single tertiary Australian site analyzing 3,813 colonoscopies over three years.
- After providing pathologist feedback and initiating an education program, no significant relationship was observed between individual pathologists and adenoma or sessile serrated adenoma detection rates in 2021 and 2022.
- The rate of sessile serrated adenoma detection significantly increased in subsequent years following the intervention, while adenoma detection rate did not change significantly.
- The study involved 25 endoscopists and 16 pathologists examining material from 2,972 colonoscopies submitted for histologic assessment across the three annual Quarter 3 periods.
- This work is relevant to endoscopy quality assurance programs and suggests that monitoring pathologist variation in addition to endoscopist metrics may help reduce unwarranted variation in colonoscopy quality indicators.

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