

Fluorescence-Guided Endoscopy Targets for Detecting Colorectal Polyps with HGD and T1 Cancer

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Podcast Episode

Digestive Oncology

Endoscopy

April 2, 2023

Researchers identified carcinoembryonic antigen (CEA) as a promising biomarker target for fluorescence-guided endoscopy to detect high-grade dysplasia and T1 colorectal cancer within colorectal polyps.

KEY POINTS

- The study performed immunohistochemistry staining on patient samples in vitro and found CEA showed the most specific staining for high-grade dysplasia and T1 colorectal cancer, with 75% specificity and 65% sensitivity as stated by the researchers.
- A clinical challenge motivating this work is that 15% of polyps thought benign on expert endoscopy still contain cancer when removed piecemeal, as shown in the TREND study according to the speakers.
- The researchers deliberately selected biomarkers already tested for clinical feasibility in other cancers; CEA has been shown feasible for in vivo imaging in pancreatic cancer and advanced colorectal cancer.
- The team is planning an in vivo study in patients with suspected T1 colorectal cancer to confirm whether CEA-targeted fluorescence endoscopy can detect malignant foci that are missed by current techniques.
- This research is relevant to gastroenterologists and endoscopists managing large colorectal polyps, particularly those deciding between piecemeal versus en bloc resection strategies.

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