

Endoscopic surveillance after surgical or endoscopic resection for colorectal cancer: European Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ESGE) and European Society of Digestive Oncology (ESDO) Guideline

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Standards and Guidelines

Digestive Oncology

Endoscopy

Primary Care

Radiology & Imaging

Surgery

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These recommendations establish an endoscopic surveillance schedule for colorectal cancer patients following curative-intent surgery, with initial colonoscopy at 1 year and subsequent intervals at 3 and 5 years rather than intensive annual surveillance.

KEY POINTS

- High quality perioperative colonoscopy is recommended before surgery for colorectal cancer or within 6 months following surgery
- Surveillance colonoscopy is recommended 1 year after colorectal cancer surgery
- Intensive endoscopic surveillance strategies such as annual colonoscopy are not recommended due to lack of proven benefit
- After the first surveillance colonoscopy, the second should be performed 3 years later and the third 5 years after the second, with shorter intervals considered if additional high risk neoplastic lesions are detected
- Halting post-surgery endoscopic surveillance is suggested at age 80 years or earlier if life expectancy is limited by comorbidities

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