

RISK FACTORS AND HISTOPATHOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF EARLY-ONSET COLORECTAL CANCER

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Poster

Colorectal

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A retrospective study of 1998 colorectal cancer patients found that early-onset disease (under 50 years) is associated with distinct pathological features including higher rates of mucinous adenocarcinoma, poor differentiation, high histologic grade, and microsatellite instability compared to patients 50 years and older.

KEY POINTS

- Patients under 50 years had significantly higher rates of mucinous adenocarcinoma, poorly differentiated tumors, high histologic grade, and microsatellite instability (MSI-H) compared to older patients (all $p < 0.01$).
- Early-onset colorectal cancer patients more frequently had inflammatory bowel disease (16 vs 7, $p < 0.01$) and family history of colorectal cancer (137 vs 130, $p < 0.05$).
- Abdominal pain was significantly more frequent in younger patients, while anemia was more common in older patients.
- Vascular invasion was significantly higher in older patients (412 vs 277, $p < 0.01$), though perineural and lymphatic invasion rates were similar between groups.
- The study included 989 patients under 50 years and 1009 patients aged 50 or older, followed between January 2009 and June 2022.

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