

UNDERWATER TECHNIQUE IN COMPLICATED DIVERTICULAR DISEASE: INITIAL EXPERIENCE

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Poster

Colorectal

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A study of 50 patients with stenosing diverticular disease demonstrates that the underwater colonoscopy technique enabled completion of examination in 82% of cases where traditional colonoscopy was incomplete.

KEY POINTS

- In 41 of 50 patients with insurmountable diverticular stenosis at traditional colonoscopy, the underwater technique allowed passage through the stenotic section and examination completion.
- All patients had DICA 4 stenosing diverticular disease confirmed by CT colon and underwent colonoscopy under conscious sedation using a thin colonoscope with water filling the stenotic lumen.
- Among 15 patients with polyps greater than 6 mm on CT colon, only 5 were confirmed positive at colonoscopy, with 2 having polypoid formations greater than 1 cm in different locations than CT indicated.
- No complications were recorded during either diagnostic or operative phases of the procedure.
- The authors conclude that the underwater technique may represent an alternative diagnostic method in pathological and inflammatory conditions with high perforation risk, and that water irrigation allows mucosal magnification improving polyp identification.

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