

Potential Impact of Adenoma Surveillance Guidelines

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BACKGROUND:

Colorectal cancer is a major cause of morbidity and mortality in Ireland. Surveillance colonoscopy after adenoma removal or cancer resection is based on existing guidelines, and constitutes a large volume of endoscopy throughout the country. Recently, the British Society of Gastroenterology and Association of Coloproctology of Great Britain and Ireland (BSG/ACPGBI) published updated guidelines on post-polypectomy and post colorectal cancer surveillance.

Study Aim: The aim of this study was to assess whether scheduled colonoscopy procedures for adenoma surveillance in our department are still indicated based on updated guidelines.

METHODS:

The study was conducted in a single tertiary referral centre in Ireland. 300 surveillance requests for adenoma surveillance scheduled for 2021 and 2022 were reviewed. Electronic records were used to review endoscopy and pathology details of the index procedure from which surveillance was deemed necessary. We then applied updated surveillance guidelines to each request to determine if the follow up procedure was still indicated.

RESULTS:

204/300 (68%) of those procedures were not indicated based on the BSG/ACPGBI guidelines.

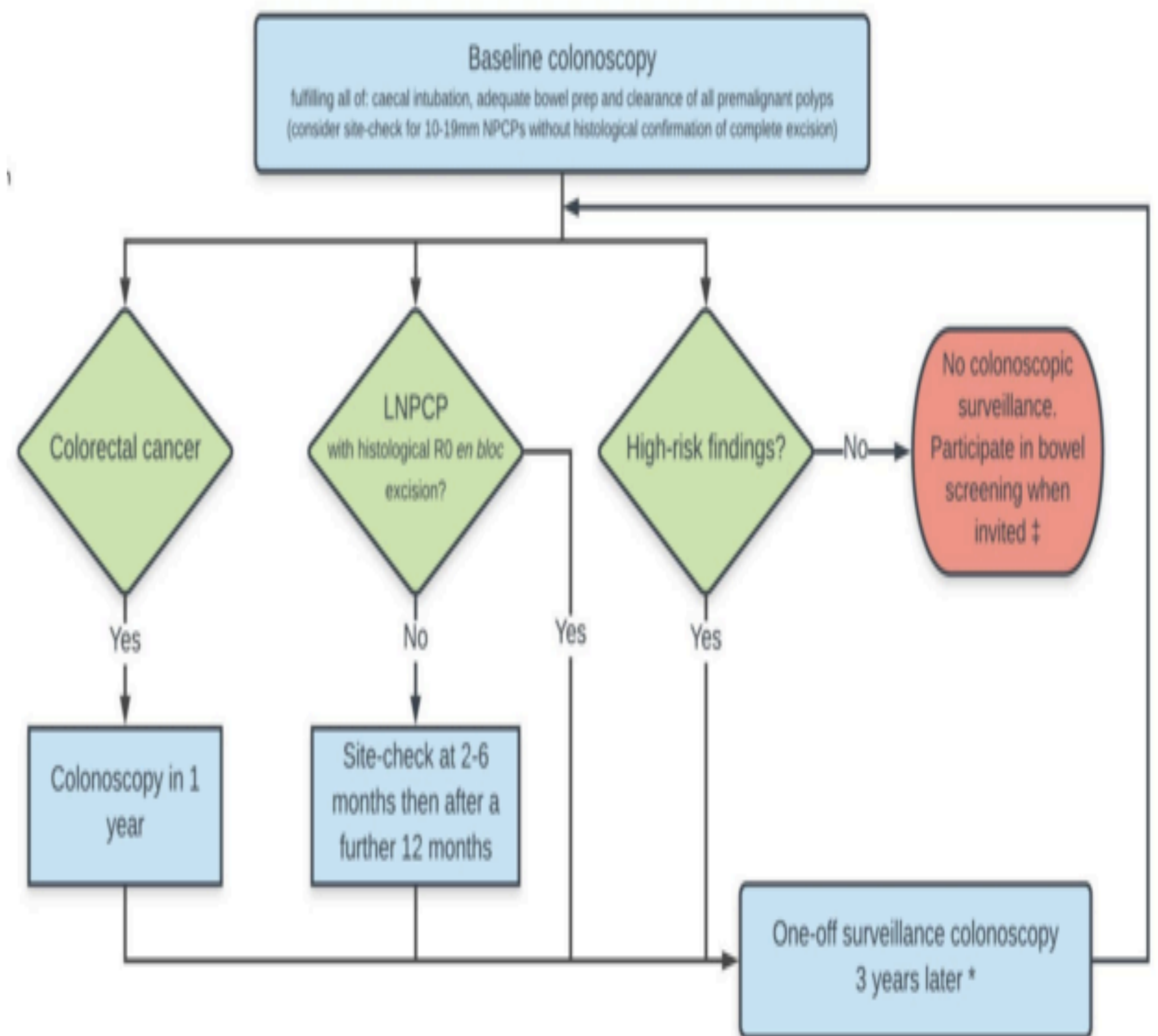
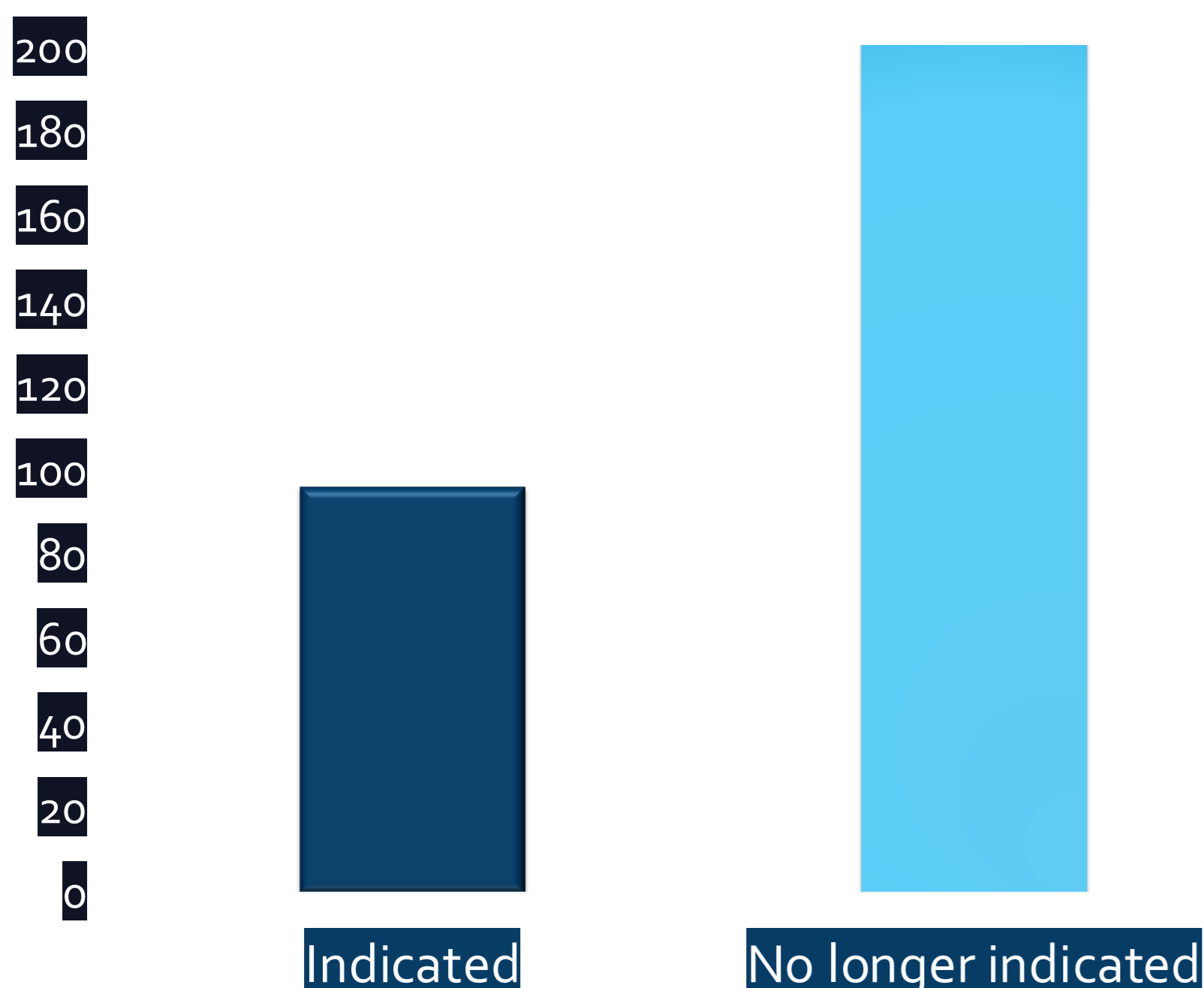


Figure 1: BSG/PHE/ACPGBI Guidelines for Post-Polypectomy and post cancer resection surveillance

RESULTS:



CONCLUSION:

A large number of surveillance endoscopic procedures were no longer indicated based on the updated guidelines. Implementation of the new guidelines would result in reduced waiting lists and cost related to surveillance colonoscopy.