Does Every Patient Need Colonoscopy Follow-up for Diverticulitis?

Rachel Ackerman  
University of Massachusetts Medical School

Justin Yamin  
University of Massachusetts Medical School

Anne Foley  
University of Massachusetts Medical School

See next page for additional authors

Follow this and additional works at: http://escholarship.umassmed.edu/ssp

Part of the Diagnosis Commons, Digestive System Diseases Commons, Gastroenterology Commons, and the Neoplasms Commons

Repository Citation
Ackerman, Rachel; Yamin, Justin; Foley, Anne; Maranda, Louise; and Hyatt, Benjamin, "Does Every Patient Need Colonoscopy Follow-up for Diverticulitis?" (2015). University of Massachusetts Medical School. Senior Scholars Program. Paper 190.
http://escholarship.umassmed.edu/ssp/190

This material is brought to you by eScholarship@UMMS. It has been accepted for inclusion in Senior Scholars Program by an authorized administrator of eScholarship@UMMS. For more information, please contact Lisa.Palmer@umassmed.edu.
Does Every Patient Need Colonoscopy Follow-up for Diverticulitis?

Authors
Rachel Ackerman, Justin Yamin, Anne Foley, Louise Maranda, and Benjamin Hyatt

Keywords
diverticulitis, colon cancer, colonoscopy, guidelines

Comments
Poster presented on Senior Scholars Presentation Day at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA, on April 29, 2015. Medical student Rachel Ackerman participated in this study as part of the Senior Scholars research program at the University of Massachusetts Medical School.

Copyright is held by the authors, with all rights reserved.

This poster was awarded a 2015 Senior Scholars Poster Presentation Award.

This poster is available at eScholarship@UMMS: http://escholarship.umassmed.edu/ssp/190
Methods

• The electronic medical record was searched for patients with colonoscopy performed for diverticulitis in the past five years.
• 521 charts were screened, 136 with CT-proven diverticulitis and sufficient documentation were included.
• History, imaging, colonoscopy findings, and pathology were reviewed.
• A descriptive analysis was performed and patient subgroups were compared using Fisher’s exact test.

Results

• Two adenocarcinomas of the sigmoid colon were diagnosed after follow-up colonoscopy in 136 diverticulitis patients (1.5%).
• Both were diagnosed after uncomplicated diverticulitis, and neither had previous colonoscopies.
• Both localized to the same area as the diverticulitis.
• There was no significant difference between rates of carcinoma diagnosed among subgroups examined.

Conclusions

• We believe colonoscopy should still be pursued after any episode of diverticulitis to rule out occult colon cancer.
• More evidence is needed before recommending changes to the current guidelines.
• We are looking back further in the electronic medical record to increase our sample size.

Acknowledgments

Rachel Ackerman, BA1, Justin Yamin, MD2, Anne Foley, EdM2, Louise Maranda, PhD3, Benjamin Hyatt, MD2
1University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA
2Department of Medicine, Division of Gastroenterology, University of Massachusetts Medical Center, Worcester, MA
3Department of Quantitative Health Sciences, UMMS, Worcester, MA