Comparing Right Colon Adenoma Miss Rates of Water Exchange and Carbon Dioxide Insufflation: A Prospective Randomized Controlled Trail

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- Post-colonoscopy colorectal cancers (PCCRC) are presumed to arise from miss lesions and frequently occur in the right colon.<sup>1</sup>
- A meta-analysis of tandem colonoscopy studies reported the pooled miss rate for all adenomas at 26%.<sup>2</sup>
- Observational data have shown water exchange (WE) significantly decreased right colon adenoma miss rate (AMR).<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> le Clercq CM, et al. Gut 2014; <sup>2</sup> Zhao S, et al. Gastroenterology 2019; <sup>3</sup> Cheng CL, et al. BMC Gastroenterol 2019.



## **Aims of Study**

• We hypothesized that WE could reduce right colon AMR compared with CO2 insufflation.

#### • Primary outcome:

Right colon AMR determined by tandem inspection of the right colon by blinded observers.

#### Secondary outcomes:

Right colon serrated polyp miss rate (SPMR), right colon serrated polyp detection rate (SPDR), and overall adenoma detection rate (ADR).



# **Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria**

#### • Inclusion criteria:

Patients aged  $\geq$  45 years who were able to give informed consent were eligible for enrollment.

#### • Exclusion criteria:

- Previous surgical resection of the colon
- Inflammatory bowel disease
- Polyposis syndrome
- Known obstructive lesion of the colon
- Gastrointestinal bleeding
- ASA classification of physical status  $\geq$  3
- Refusal to provide written informed consent



## **Randomization and Intervention**

#### Randomization





#### **Study Flowchart**



## **Results: Demographics and Indications**

|   | WE group<br>(N=131) | CO2 group<br>(N=131) | <i>P</i> value |
|---|---------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Male, n (%)   | 61 (46.6)           | 67 (51.1)            | 0.537          |
| Age, mean (SD), years                               | 56.7 (8.8)          | 57.3 (8.3)           | 0.529          |
| Body mass index (BMI), mean (SD), kg/m <sup>2</sup> | 25.4 (3.4)          | 24.3 (3.5)           | 0.010          |
| Family history of CRC*, n (%)                       | 4 (3.1)             | 7 (5.3)              | 0.540          |
| Active smoker, n (%)                                | 23 (17.6)           | 20 (15.3)            | 0.739          |
| Screening indication, n (%)                         | 53 (40.5)           | 54 (41.2)            | 0.968          |
| Surveillance indication n, (%)                      | 62 (47.3)           | 63 (48.1)            |                |
| Positive FIT indication, n (%)                      | 16 (12.2)           | 14 (10.7)            |                |

\*Family history in first degree relative < 60 years.



## **Primary Outcome: Right colon AMR**





### Secondary Outcomes: Right colon SPMR and SPDR





## **Secondary Outcomes: ADRs**





## **Insertion and Withdrawal Inspection Times**

| Mean time interval (SD)                               | WE (N=131)  | CO2 (N=131) | P value |
|---|-------------|-------------|---------|
| Insertion, min  | 14.0 (6.5)  | 7.7 (5.6)   | <0.0001 |
| Inspection during overall withdrawal, min             | 17.3 (5.2)  | 17.4 (4.7)  | 0.798   |
| Inspection during first right colon examination, min  | 6.6 (2.0)   | 6.1 (2.4)*  | 0.076   |
| Inspection during tandem right colon examination, min | 5.2 (1.8)   | 5.4 (1.8)*  | 0.295   |
| Total withdrawal, min                                 | 24.6 (8.0)  | 26.0 (6.9)  | 0.118   |
| Total procedure, min                                  | 38.5 (10.8) | 33.7 (8.6)  | <0.0001 |

\*Data for the 130 patients with complete tandem examination.



## **Other Colonoscopic Parameters**

|  | WE group<br>(N=131) | CO2 group<br>(N=131) | P value |
|--|---------------------|----------------------|---------|
| Water infused during insertion, mean (SD), mL                | 1499.6 (665.4)      | 39.1 (236.7)         | <0.0001 |
| Water aspirated during insertion, mean (SD), mL              | 1460.9 (657.1)      | 136.8 (189.7)        | <0.0001 |
| BBPS score $\geq$ 8, n (%)                                   | 29 (22.1)           | 16 (12.3)*           | 0.0485  |
| Right colon BBPS score, mean (SD)                            | 2.0 (0.2)           | 2.0 (0.2)*           | 0.2071  |
| Correct guess of insertion method by blinded examiner, n (%) | 87 (66.4)           | 72 (55.0)*           | 0.0746  |

\*Data for the 130 patients with complete tandem examination. *BBPS,* Boston Bowel Preparation Scale



## **Risk Factors for Miss of Adenomas**

| Variable   | Odds Ratio | 95% CI      | P Value |
|--|------------|-------------|---------|
| WE group vs. CO2 group   | 0.47       | 0.23 - 0.94 | 0.034   |
| Age (for a 5-year increment)   | 1.04       | 0.86 - 1.26 | 0.661   |
| Female vs. male  | 1.34       | 0.67 - 2.69 | 0.412   |
| BMI (for a 1-kg/m <sup>2</sup> increment)                            | 1.06       | 0.97 - 1.16 | 0.218   |
| Active smoker  | 0.68       | 0.28 - 1.68 | 0.405   |
| Family history of CRC  | 1.07       | 0.25 - 4.48 | 0.932   |
| Screening vs. positive FIT indication                                | 0.46       | 0.17 - 1.22 | 0.119   |
| Endoscopist  | 1.16       | 0.57 - 2.35 | 0.684   |
| BBPS score (for a 1-point increment)                                 | 1.04       | 0.62 - 1.72 | 0.895   |
| Insertion time (for a 1-min increment)                               | 1.01       | 0.96 - 1.06 | 0.766   |
| Withdrawal time (for a 1-min increment)                              | 1.02       | 0.97 - 1.07 | 0.417   |
| ≥ 2 adenomas vs. ≤ 1 adenoma in right colon during index examination | 2.57       | 1.29 - 5.13 | 0.007   |
| Max. adenoma size ≤ 5 mm vs ≥ 6 mm                                   | 0.95       | 0.49 - 1.87 | 0.888   |



# **Strength and Limitation**

#### • Strengths:

- Equivalent quality techniques were used during WE and CO2 withdrawal inspection.
- Blinded examiner with adequate masking.
- High ADRs attested to the high quality of study.

#### Limitations:

- Inability to mask the primary examiner of the insertion method used.
- Single center study.



## Conclusions

The significant reductions of AMR and SPMR in the right colon add noteworthy attributes to WE. Use of WE for CRC prevention is justified to accumulate data on reduced missed lesions and PCCRC.

