11-6-2017

FMT Placed by Colonoscopy: Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

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Conclusion: Postpartum hypertension is more recognized, and readmissions are becoming more common. We increased efforts to optimize medical management of hypertension and reduce preventable readmissions. Improvement in discharge instructions for patients did not decrease overall admission for postpartum hypertension but may have improved overall patient care. Overall cost analysis would be beneficial to see further economic impact.

Robustness of a Newly Proposed Risk Schema for Lymphatic Dissemination in Endometrioid Endometrial Cancer

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Background: Surgical management for endometrioid endometrial cancer (EEC) includes complete lymph node dissection for all patients at risk of lymphatic dissemination. The standard risk schema, defined by Mayo Clinic, identifies low-risk patients as those with grade 1/2 EEC, myometrial invasion (MI) ≤50%, and tumor diameter (TD) ≤2 cm. We recently proposed (and published) a risk schema containing modified forms of grade, MI and TD that suggests a significant decrease in false-negative rate and need for lymphadenectomy in low-risk women.

Purpose: Evaluate robustness of our proposed schema for lymphatic dissemination risk stratification in a subsequent EEC patient cohort.

Methods: We retrospectively applied the proposed schema to patients diagnosed with stage I–III EEC during 2014–2015 who underwent pelvic and/or para-aortic lymph node removal. Cancer Registry data were confirmed via chart review. Consistent with the cohort studied during model development, the validation cohort included non-Hispanic white or black patients with complete data describing TD (≤50 mm or >50 mm), MI (≤33%, >33% to ≤66%, or >66%) and grade (1 or 2–3).

Results: In the validation cohort, 29 (11.7%) of the 247 EEC patients were node-positive (vs 9.2% of 737 patients in the development cohort). Risk stratification using the proposed schema produced similar false-negative rates during model development (57.2%) and validation (54.6%), both 20% lower than when using the standard schema (76.2% and 74.3%, respectively). False-negative rates, however, were noticeably different between development and validation cohorts using both the proposed (0% and 13.8%) and standard (1.47% and 6.90%) schemas, suggesting a shift toward low-risk classification in node-positive patients of the validation cohort.

Conclusion: Application of the proposed risk stratification schema to an alternative patient cohort verified the utility of modified risk criteria, including TD with 50-mm cutoff, for identifying low-risk EEC patients who may not require node evaluation. However, in the validation cohort, greater prevalence of lymph node metastasis and low-risk classification of node-positive patients was observed. Discrepancy between cohorts is likely due to greater utilization of sentinel lymph node mapping during the validation period, allowing for increased detection of low-volume metastases. Continued model development and validation is needed, especially to account for the increased sensitivity of new technologies.

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Background: Fecal transplants are successful in the treatment of recurrent or refractory Clostridium difficile infections (CDI), but there is no consensus on the best method of instillation. Studies have shown greater success with lower gastrointestinal tract placement, but technical aspects of placement are not validated.

Purpose: This review aims to identify common traits and procedural techniques of successful fecal microbiota transplant (FMT) therapy via colonoscopy.

Methods: An electronic search was conducted using OVID Medline and PubMed for articles published from January 2010 to January 2016. The primary outcome of interest was cure by FMT placed via colonoscopy.

Results: Of the 337 articles reviewed, we included 24 studies, from which 11 case reports were excluded from data analysis. The resultant data included 366 patients (64% female). Point estimate for cure of CDI after FMT for patients over 65 years of age (9%) was 84.6% (95% confidence interval [CI]: 0.58–0.96; P<0.016), cure over the age of 18 with no upper limit specified on age (74%) was 85.4% (95% CI: 0.76–0.91; P<0.001) and, for those identified strictly as 18–65 years old (17%), cure was 93% (95% CI: 0.83–0.98; P<0.001). Patients who stopped antibiotics at least 48 hours prior to FMT (37%) had a cure rate of 86% (95% CI: 0.78–0.91; P<0.001) compared to 95% (95% CI: 0.90–0.98; P<0.001) in patients who stopped antibiotics at least 24 hours prior to FMT (43%) and 81% (95% CI: 0.53–0.94; P<0.035) in those who stopped less than 24 hours prior to FMT (15%). In studies that specified use of GoLYTELY® prep prior to colonoscopy (58%), cure was 91% (95% CI: 0.85–0.95; P<0.001); whereas those using a split 2-L polyethylene glycol prep (21%) had 79% cure (95% CI: 0.61–0.90; P<0.004). Placement of FMT throughout the colon (6.8%) had 96% cure (95% CI: 0.77–0.99; P<0.002) versus terminal ileum to cecum placement (59%) at 88% cure (95% CI: 0.78–0.94; P<0.001) and cecum to ascending colon (28%) at 86% cure (95% CI: 0.63–0.95; P<0.006). Studies that specified the use of loperamide after FMT (21%) had a cure of 85% (95% CI: 0.63–0.95; P<0.004).

Conclusion: FMT placed by colonoscopy has a role in the cure of recurrent or refractory CDI. Stopping antibiotics 24 hours prior to FMT results in higher percentage cure (95%). Distribution of FMT throughout the colon has better outcomes than FMT instillation at other locations. Effect of loperamide post-FMT placement is not conclusive due to the low percentage of reported use. Prospective studies are recommended to study these factors for confirmation of effects.

Six-Year Experience of Influenza Vaccination as a Condition of Employment for a Large Regional Health Care System

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Background: Influenza remains a leading cause of respiratory illness and mortality, especially in the elderly. Influenza vaccination as a condition of employment can increase influenza vaccination rates among healthcare workers, especially in settings such as rural hospitals. This study describes the experience of a large regional healthcare system in implementing and sustaining influenza vaccination as a condition of employment for healthcare workers over six years.

Methods: This study utilized a pre-post design with data collection from the first year of implementation and comparison to the six-year follow-up. The primary outcome of interest was the proportion of healthcare workers vaccinated against influenza. The study also examined the impact of influenza vaccination on healthcare workers’ perceived knowledge and self-efficacy, as well as the influence of workplace policies and environmental factors on vaccination rates.

Results: Over the six-year period, the vaccination rate among healthcare workers increased from 70% in the first year to 95% in the sixth year. The proportion of healthcare workers who perceived that their knowledge about influenza vaccination improved significantly (P<0.001) from the first year to the sixth year, and there was also a significant improvement in self-efficacy (P<0.001). Workplace policies, such as providing vaccination clinics and access to on-site flu shots, had a positive impact on vaccination rates. The study also found that healthcare workers who received flu shots were more likely to report improved knowledge and self-efficacy, and were more likely to recommend the vaccine to their colleagues.

Conclusion: The experience of this large regional healthcare system demonstrates the effectiveness of implementing influenza vaccination as a condition of employment for healthcare workers. The study also highlights the importance of workplace policies and environmental factors in sustaining high vaccination rates over time.

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