

CLINICAL IMAGE

A juvenile polyp on colonoscopy, is it premalignant?

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Abstract

Solitary juvenile polyp is a nonneoplastic condition but needs to be differentiated from a premalignant condition juvenile polyposis syndrome.

KEYWORDS

Juvenile polyp, polyposis syndrome, retention polyp

1 | CASE PRESENTATION

A 50-year-old woman underwent screening colonoscopy which revealed a 15 mm pedunculated transverse colon polyp (Figure 1). Histologic examination of the polypectomy specimen showed cystically dilated glands with chronic inflammatory cells, suggesting a juvenile polyp, also known

as retention polyp (Figure 2). Such polyps are most common in children during their first decade of life. Its size ranges from 3 mm to 3 cm; they are frequently pedunculated and commonly found in rectum. In children, it may present with rectal bleeding.¹ Other less common presentations include abdominal pain, diarrhea, and prolapse of polyp through the rectum. Solitary juvenile polyp is benign and does not require surveillance. However, one may have more juvenile

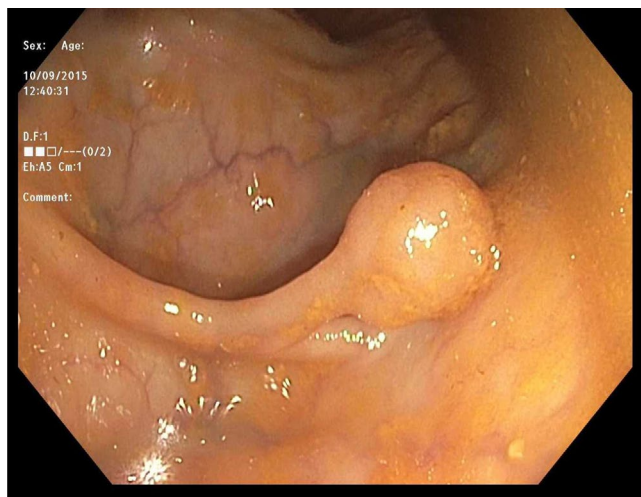


FIGURE 1 Endoscopic image revealing a 15 mm pedunculated polyp in the transverse colon

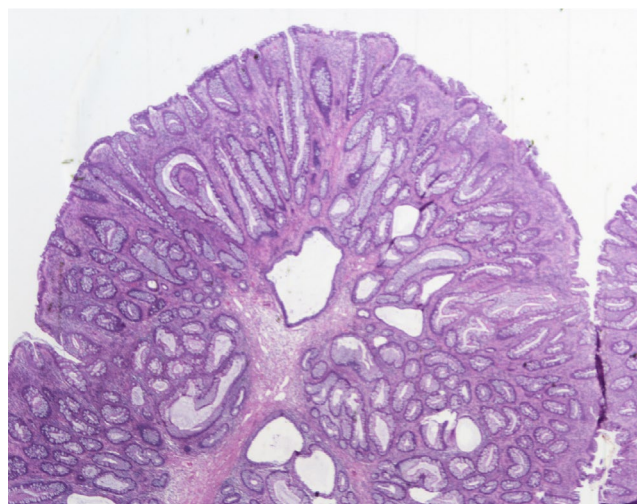


FIGURE 2 Histopathological imaging demonstrates cystically dilated glands characteristic of a solitary juvenile polyp

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polyps proximally in the gastrointestinal tract indicating juvenile polyposis syndrome which has tendency to develop into colon cancer. Clinical criterion for juvenile polyposis syndrome includes any one of the following—five or more juvenile polyps in the colon, family history of juvenile polyposis, or its presence throughout the gastrointestinal tract. Hence, finding of a solitary juvenile polyp should prompt search for such polyps at other locations and thus differentiate from juvenile polyposis syndrome. Our patient did not have any other juvenile polyp elsewhere in the gastrointestinal tract. Hence, no surveillance was recommended.

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

All authors have contributed in writing and reviewing the manuscript.

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