

INCIDENTAL COLORECTAL WALL THICKENING DETECTED ON CT, CAN PREDICT COLORECTAL TUMOR?

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Introduction - Purpose : Incidental colorectal wall thickening (CRWT) at CT is a common clinical condition. Clinician's general approach to these cases is to perform a colonoscopic examination to detect a possible tumor. Several studies on this topic have detected premalignant-malignant lesions in the majority of CRWT. There are also a few small studies that contradict this. It is known that early diagnosis of colorectal cancer (CRC) improves overall survival. At the same time, excreting precancerous polyps is also a fact that prevents CRC formation. Therefore, colonoscopic examination of CRWT is important for the detection of premalignant-malignant lesions. In this study, we aimed to show the correlation between CT and colonoscopy by examining the colonoscopy results of the patients with CRWT on CT.

Methods - Tools : Reports of 5300 patients undergoing colonoscopy between 01.01.2013 and 01.01.2017 were screened retrospectively and 122 of these colonoscopic examinations were made with indication of incidental CRWT detected on CT. Patients with the indicated conditions were excluded from the study: any history of known CRC, GIS disease, inadequate colonoscopic examination. A total of 98 patients were included in the study. Colonoscopy and pathology reports were divided into two groups, normal and abnormal. Abnormal pathology reports were divided into two groups, premalign/malign and benign. The correlation between CT and colonoscopy was determined by calculating the positive predictive value of abdominal CT.

Findings : Abnormal findings were detected in 28 (28.6%) of 98 patients who underwent colonoscopy, 23 (82.1%) of 28 patients who underwent colonoscopic biopsy. Premalign-malign findings were observed in 11 (47.8%) of these 23 patients. Seven of these patients had tubular adenoma, 2 had lymphoma, and 2 had CRC. Premalign-malign lesions were found in 11.2% of all patients. The positive predictive value of abdominal CT was calculated as 28.9%.

Discussion : The positive predictive value of abdominal CT was calculated as 28.9% in this study. In similar studies this ratio was between 30% and 68%. Considering that at least 1 premalign-malignant lesion is detected in every 10 patients in total, incidental CWRT on CT should be examined by colonoscopy.

Keywords: Incidental Colorectal Wall Thickening Cancer