**Insight on colonoscopy findings in Southern Iraq:**

**Retrospective study from a tertiary center**

Zeinab Kamil Dhahi1, Loma Almansori2

1Basra Health Directorate, Basra, Iraq. 2Department of Internal Medicine, College of Medicine, University of Basra, Basra, Iraq.

ABSTRACT

**Background**: Colonoscopy is the most trusted diagnostic tool in the screening and diagnosis of colorectal cancer and other colorectal diseases. **Objective**: This study intends to present the results of colonoscopic procedures carried out in Center for Digestive and Liver Disease and Surgery in Basra . **Methods**: Retrospective evaluation of 698 consecutive subjects who underwent screening or diagnostic colonoscopy at Basra Center for Liver Disease and Digestive System between 2014 and February 2020 was conducted. The primary outcome measure was the rate of adenoma detection, calculated alternately as the total number of detected neoplastic lesions divided by the number of subjects screened and as the proportion of subjects with at least one neoplastic lesion. The demographic information, presentation, and colonoscopic findings have been reported as frequencies and percentages. **Results**: The study involved 400 (57.3%) male and 298(42.7%) female subjects, with ages ranging from 1 to 90 years and a mean±SD of 42.3±18.6 years. Cecum access rate was 86.8%(606/698),and 48 (6.9%) out of the 698 participants had malignancy. The adenoma detection rate was 12.3% (87 out of 698 patients). **Conclusions**: In our study, the success rate, which is determined by the rate of cecum access, was relatively lower than the approved standard due to causes related to the patients. Even so, it is higher than that reported in previous studies. The adenoma detection rate was low, which is likely due to the small sample size as the center is in its early inception.

**Keywords**: colonoscopy, adenoma detection rate, neoplastic lesions