



Patient Counseling Report

➤ **HYPERPLASTIC POLYPS**

WHAT ARE HYPERPLASTIC POLYPS?

Polyps are growths in the colon or the rectum. There are two types of polyps: adenomatous and hyperplastic. Hyperplastic polyps have a very low risk of becoming cancerous.

Hyperplastic polyps are common and may be found in approximately ten out of every 10,000 persons. Although many people may develop hyperplastic polyps in their lifetime, most will not develop into cancer.

HOW ARE HYPERPLASTIC POLYPS DETECTED?

The most common test for polyps is a colonoscopy (an examination of the large bowel with a telescope like device), or a sigmoidoscopy (an examination of the lowest part of the bowel using a flexible telescope).

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF HYPERPLASTIC POLYPS?

Hyperplastic polyps usually don't cause symptoms; however, rectal bleeding and abdominal pain are the most common.

WHAT TREATMENT OPTIONS DO I HAVE?

The treatment that your physician selects depends on the type of polyp you have. The main treatment option for hyperplastic polyps is a polypectomy. Only a physician can determine the most appropriate treatment.

Polypectomy: The tissue sample is reviewed by a pathologist to determine whether the tissue contains a cancer or other disease. A polyp that has been completely cut out will not grow back, however some individuals tend to form multiple polyps, so there is the chance that new polyps could develop after a polypectomy.

WHAT ELSE SHOULD I ASK MY DOCTOR?

Are there any other tests that we need to perform?
What treatment do you suggest?

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

American Gastroenterological Association: www.gastro.org
American College of Gastroenterology: www.acg.gi.org
American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy: www.asge.org