

Image of the Month

The “Siamese twins” polyps

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A 79 year-old patient underwent colonoscopy for moderate sideropenic anaemia. During examination, a 3 cm pedunculated polyp with hyperaemic and eroded surface and a long stalk was seen in the sigmoid colon (Fig. 1). Polypectomy was performed a few days later as an inpatient procedure, as the patient had multiple comorbidities (heart disease, pacemaker, hypertension, previous thyroidectomy and gastric resection for peptic ulcer).

After infiltrating the stalk with saline and indigo carmine, the polyp was sectioned with a diathermy snare and was removed “en block” and retrieved without complications. Once recovered, the polyp was found to have a very unusual shape: it was made up of two similar polyps joined at the stalk, which more distally joined into a main stalk originating from the colonic mucosa

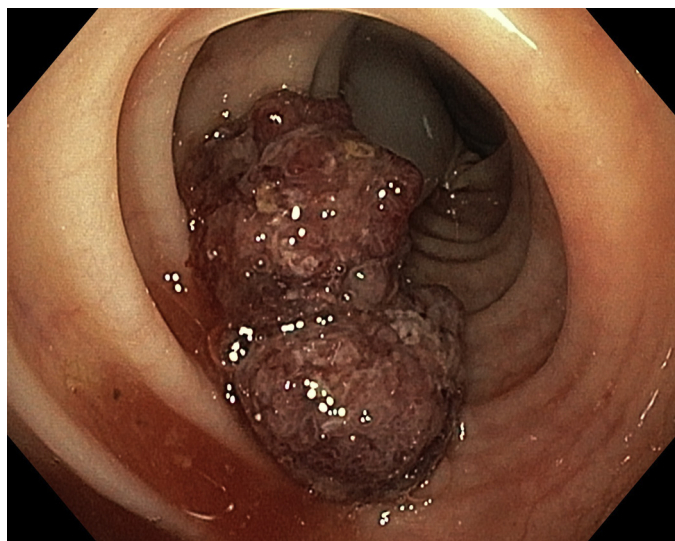


Fig. 1.

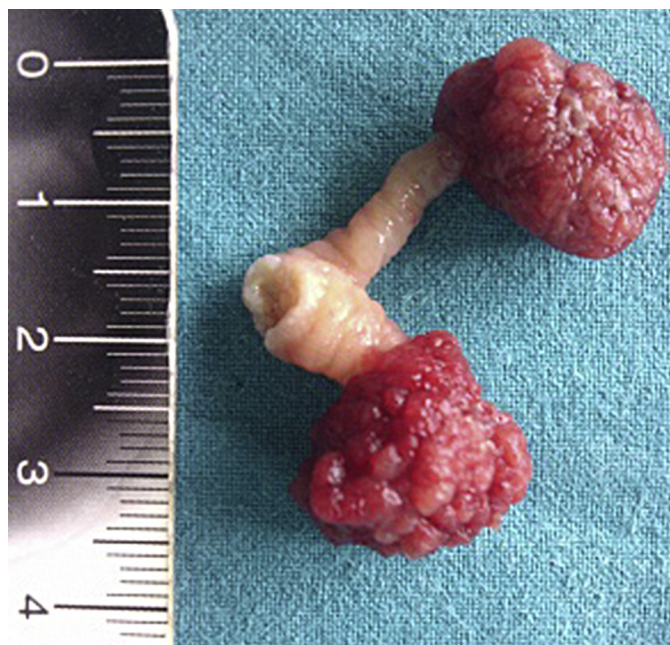


Fig. 2.

(Fig. 2). Histological examination revealed that the polyps were tubulo-villous adenomas with low grade dysplasia. The patient was discharged 24 h later without any complication.

The shape of the gastrointestinal tract polyps have been extensively studied and classified as one of the main factors influencing endoscopic resectability [1]. This is the first report in literature of a double pedunculated polyp joined to a main stalk. The polyps were very similar and so we decided to call them “Siamese twins” polyps.

Reference

- [1] The Paris endoscopic classification of superficial neoplastic lesions: esophagus, stomach, and colon: November 30 to December 1, 2002. *Gastrointest Endosc* 2003;58(6 Suppl.):S3–43.

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