

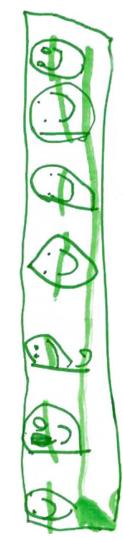
COLORECTAL CANCER: The first assessment of screening in the Catanzaro territory

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Indagini I livello



- ASP Catanzaro Presidio Ospedaliero Soveria Mannelli S.C. Laboratorio Analisi Chimico Cliniche e Microbiologiche
- **PURPOSE OF THE STUDY: Colorectal cancer** or colon cancer is one of the most frequent causes of neoplasia death in the developed countries. In order to increase the number of treatable cases the Calabria Region is taking part in a screening project for this pathology and within the district of Catanzaro our Laboratory has been identified as the main center for the examination of fecal occult blood test (FOBT).

MATERIAL AND METHODS

• This paper shows the initial data of this Regional screening project for all the people belonging to the ASP (Azienda Sanitaria Provinciale) Health System of the Catanzaro district, the first ASP that launched CCR screening in Calabria. From the year 2008 to the year 2012 a total of 29059 people were invited and 8614 underwent testing as shown in the chart.

RESULTS

Between February 2008 and December 2012 a total of 8614 people have been tested, 3986 males and 4628 females. The results gained were a total of 556 positives of which 323 males and 233 females, with a total positive percentage of 6.5% All of the positives were guided to undergo colonoscopy as a following diagnosis step. We report that among the 360 colonoscopy performed up to now, 47 have resulted completely negative, 101 negatives regarding to adenoma or carcinoma, but with bleeding lesions for various reasons which justifies the positive results of FOBT; 212 have resulted positive at various degrees of adenoma or for carcinoma. Endoscopic or surgical removing histological examination showed up to now 42 early adenoma, 64 advanced adenoma, 29 adenocarcinoma or other cancers among which 2 lymphomas. We are now expecting to have further data regarding all of the patients surgically treated in order to have, about the patients, a complete examination.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The scientific data obtained gives us a precise indication on how this project can influence health and quality of life of the population. An early stage detection among most cases allowed a conservative surgery, which not only influences life expectancy but also determines a better quality of life and therefore morbidity reduction and economical savings for the society (2) (3). In fact even if data of all the cases with neoplastic lesions have not yet been gathered, we already know for what we have in hand, that more than 50% of the patients that have undergone surgery have had a non-demolition operation bringing to a rapid recovery and manteining a good life quality. We shall furtherly communicate when holding complete data, all that is correlated to the surgery applied and preservation of the patient's quality of life. In any case the prevention project represents an advantage of survival, as main aim, but also in reference to the health system a reduction in social expense.