<table>
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<tr>
<th>Products</th>
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<td>Procedural Area</td>
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<td>Article</td>
<td>Pushing the Limit: How to Get the Most Out of Cold Snares</td>
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<td>Publication</td>
<td>The American Journal of Gastroenterology (2016 111: 1217-1219)</td>
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<td>URL</td>
<td><a href="http://www.nature.com/ajg/journal/v111/n9/full/ajg2016275a.html">http://www.nature.com/ajg/journal/v111/n9/full/ajg2016275a.html</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Author</td>
<td>Daniel von Renteln, MD and Heiko Pohl, MD</td>
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<td>Purpose</td>
<td>A review of clinical evidence of polypectomy with cold snare resection compared to forceps and snare resection with electrocautery.</td>
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**Key Points**

Current evidence has established that the cold snare technique is a safe and effective technique for polyps ≤10 mm.

**Cold snare resection is preferred for complete resection**

- Cold snaring should be the preferred technique for all diminutive polyps >3 mm
- Incomplete resection with hot snaring has been reported in 10% of 5–20 mm neoplastic polyps
- Removal of small polyps with hot forceps is often incomplete and may impair histopathology due to electrocautery artifacts
- A high rate of incomplete resection has also been associated with cold forceps

**Cold snaring reduces the risks of complications**

- Cold snaring should reduce the risk of perforation and post-polypectomy bleeding – both of which could occur with the use of electrocautery
- In a small study evaluating patients on warfarin, the cold snare group had lower immediate and delayed bleeding rates versus the hot snare group (0% vs. 14% and 6% vs. 23%, respectively)\(^1\)
- The risk of delayed bleeding and eschar formation may be minimized with cold snare resection

**Benefits of a dedicated cold snare (Exacto® cold snare) versus a standard snare**

- Standard snares have been designed for use with electrocautery and have thicker, braided wires, which limit cutting capabilities
- The Exacto® cold snare has a thin, stiff wire that holds healthy polyp margin easier than a standard snare
- Another trial showed that incomplete resection of diminutive polyps was significantly less with a dedicated cold snare (Exacto® cold snare) compared to a standard snare (9% vs. 21%)\(^2\)

**Technique with cold snare resection**

- A “push and cut” technique should be used
- During placement, the tip of the catheter should be 1-2mm in front of the polyp base
- When closing the snare, gentle pressure should be applied onto the mucosa

**Conclusions**

Studies suggest that cold snare resection is safe and effective and may be considered as the primary resection method for polyps up to 10mm. Specifically, a dedicated cold snare should be used for polyps greater than 5mm and less than 10mm.

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