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# **Health Technology Review**

# Artificial Intelligence– Assisted Colonoscopy for Detecting Polyps, Adenomas, Precancerous Lesions, and Colorectal Cancer

# Key Messages

# What Is the Issue?

- Colorectal cancer is 1 of the most common cancers globally. In Canada, it is estimated that more than 25,000 people will be diagnosed with colorectal cancer in 2024 and that more than 9,000 people will die of it.
- To reduce the incidence and mortality of colorectal cancer, screening programs across various jurisdictions in Canada have implemented screening strategies involving routine fecal testing and colonoscopy.
   While colonoscopy is often considered the gold standard for colorectal cancer screening, missed polyps remain a challenge with this modality.
- In recent years, many artificial intelligence (AI)–enabled polyp detection systems have been developed for use during colonoscopy. A review of the clinical and cost-effectiveness of these systems could help clarify their potential role in clinical practice.

# What Did We Do?

- To inform decisions regarding the use of AI-assisted colonoscopy, we conducted a rapid review to identify and summarize evidence that compared the clinical and cost-effectiveness of AI-assisted colonoscopy to conventional colonoscopy and among different AI-assisted colonoscopy systems.
- We searched key resources, including journal citation databases, and conducted a focused internet search for relevant evidence published since 2019. One reviewer screened articles for inclusion based on predefined criteria, critically appraised the included studies, and narratively summarized the findings.

# What Did We Find?

- We found 1 health technology assessment (HTA), 3 systematic reviews (SRs), and 1 randomized controlled trial (RCT) that evaluated the clinical and cost-effectiveness of AI-assisted colonoscopy for detecting polyps, adenomas, precancerous lesions, and colorectal cancer.
- Al-assisted colonoscopy may improve clinical outcomes compared to conventional colonoscopy, including adenoma detection rates, the number of adenomas detected per procedure, and adenoma miss rates, although it may also lead to longer withdrawal times. However, not all studies included in this report demonstrated statistically significant differences between the groups for each of these outcomes.
- The included RCT allocated participants to receive AI-assisted colonoscopy with either Deep-GI or CAD EYE, but the authors did not

# Key Messages

perform statistical testing to compare the outcomes between these 2 treatment groups.

- Findings from 6 economic evaluations summarized in the HTA suggest that AI-assisted colonoscopy is likely to be cost-effective or dominant meaning it is less costly and more effective — compared to conventional colonoscopy.
- We did not find any studies on the relative cost-effectiveness of different Al-assisted colonoscopy systems that met our selection criteria for this review.
- None of the included studies reported long-term outcomes, such as colorectal cancer incidence and mortality; therefore, the impact of AI-assisted colonoscopy on these outcomes is unknown.

# What Does This Mean?

- Al-assisted colonoscopy may improve clinical outcomes and be more cost-effective than conventional colonoscopy for detecting polyps, adenomas, precancerous lesions, and colorectal cancer.
- The clinical and cost-effectiveness of different types of AI-assisted colonoscopy systems compared to each other is unknown.
- Clinicians and decision-makers can use the evidence summarized in this review to inform decisions regarding the implementation of AI-assisted colonoscopy.

# **Table of Contents**

Abbreviations	8
Research Questions	9
Context and Policy Issues What Is Colorectal Cancer?	<b>9</b>
What Is the Current Practice?	9
What Is AI-Assisted Colonoscopy and What Are Its Potential Benefits?	10
Why Is It Important to Do This Review? Objective	11 11
Methods	11
Summary of Evidence	<b>12</b> 12
Summary of Study Characteristics	
Summary of Critical Appraisal	14
Summary of Findings	16
Limitations	19
Evidence Gaps	19
Risk of Bias of Included Studies in SRs	19
Generalizability	20
Conclusions and Implications for Decision- or Policy-Making	20
Summary of Evidence	20
Considerations for Future Research	21
Implications for Clinical Practice and Policy-Making	22
References	23
Appendix 1: Detailed Methods and Selection of Included Studies	26
Appendix 2: Characteristics of Included Publications	29
Appendix 3: Critical Appraisal of Included Publications	36

Appendix 4: Main Study Findings	41
Appendix 5: Overlap Between Included SRs	53
Appendix 6: References of Potential Interest	55

# **List of Tables**

Table 1: Selection Criteria	11
Table 2: Characteristics of Included HTA and SRs	29
Table 3: Characteristics of Included RCT	30
Table 4: Characteristics of Included Economic Evaluation	32
Table 5: Characteristics of Economic Evaluations Included in the SR by Health Technology Wales (2024) <sup>35</sup>	33
Table 6: Strengths and Limitations of SRs Using AMSTAR 257	36
Table 7: Strengths and Limitations of the RCT Using the Downs and Black Checklist <sup>58</sup>	38
Table 8: Strengths and Limitations of Economic Evaluation Using the Drummond Checklist <sup>59</sup>	39
Table 9: Summary of Findings by Outcome — Adenoma Detection Rate <sup>a</sup>	41
Table 10: Summary of Findings by Outcome — Proximal Adenoma Detection Rate <sup>a</sup>	41
Table 11: Summary of Findings by Outcome — Advanced Adenoma Detection Rate <sup>a</sup>	42
Table 12: Summary of Findings by Outcome — Polyp Detection Rate <sup>a</sup>	42
Table 13: Summary of Findings by Outcome — Sessile Serrated Lesion Detection Rate <sup>a</sup>	43
Table 14: Summary of Findings by Outcome — Carcinoma Detection Rate <sup>a</sup>	43
Table 15: Summary of Findings by Outcome — Adenomas Per Colonoscopy	44
Table 16: Summary of Findings by Outcome — Proximal Adenomas Per Colonoscopy	44
Table 17: Summary of Findings by Outcome — Advanced Adenomas Per Colonoscopy	45
Table 18: Summary of Findings by Outcome — Sessile Serrated Lesions Per Colonoscopy	45
Table 19: Summary of Findings by Outcome — Adenoma Miss Rate <sup>a</sup>	45
Table 20: Summary of Findings by Outcome — Advanced Adenoma Miss Rate <sup>a</sup>	46
Table 21: Summary of Findings by Outcome — Sessile Serrated Lesion Miss Rate <sup>a</sup>	46
Table 22: Summary of Findings by Outcome — Withdrawal Times	46
Table 23: Summary of Findings by Outcome — Procedure Time	48
Table 24: Summary of Findings by Outcome — Adverse Events	49
Table 25: Summary of Main Findings of Included Economic Evaluation	49
Table 26: Summary of Main Findings of Economic Evaluations Included in the SR by Health Technology	
Wales (2024) <sup>35</sup>	50
Table 27: Overlap in Relevant Primary Studies Between Included SRs	53

# List of Figures

Figure 1: Selection of Included Studies	28
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# **Abbreviations**

- AI artificial intelligence
- HTA health technology assessment
- NHS UK National Health Service
- **RCT** randomized controlled trial
- SR systematic review

# **Research Questions**

- 1. What is the clinical effectiveness of Al-assisted colonoscopy versus conventional colonoscopy for the detection of polyps, adenomas, precancerous lesions, and colorectal cancer?
- 2. What is the clinical effectiveness of different Al-assisted colonoscopy systems versus each other for the detection of polyps, adenomas, precancerous lesions, and colorectal cancer?
- 3. What is the cost-effectiveness of Al-assisted colonoscopy versus conventional colonoscopy for the detection of polyps, adenomas, precancerous lesions, and colorectal cancer?
- 4. What is the cost-effectiveness of different AI-assisted colonoscopy systems versus each other for the detection of polyps, adenomas, precancerous lesions, and colorectal cancer?

# **Context and Policy Issues**

# What Is Colorectal Cancer?

Colorectal cancer is a type of cancer that develops in the cells that line the inside of the colon or rectum, which are parts of the large intestine. In 2024, an estimated 25,200 new cases will be diagnosed in Canada, making it the fourth most common cancer.<sup>1</sup> It is also the second leading cause of cancer-related mortality in Canada, with approximately 9,400 deaths projected this year.<sup>2</sup>

Most cases of colorectal cancer begin as small, noncancerous growths called polyps. Over time, some of these polyps can develop into cancer.<sup>3</sup> Symptoms of colorectal cancer include diarrhea, constipation, blood in the stool, abdominal pain or discomfort, unexplained weight loss, fatigue, and anemia (low iron levels).<sup>4,5</sup> Factors that may affect an individual's risk for developing colorectal cancer include age, family history, race, inflammatory bowel disease, physical activity levels, diet, and alcohol or tobacco use.<sup>6</sup>

Colorectal cancers tend to develop slowly and are often highly treatable when detected early, while the disease is localized to the bowel. For stage I colorectal cancers, the 5-year net survival rate exceeds 90%.<sup>7</sup> However, because many people show no symptoms in the early stages of the disease, identifying individuals who could benefit from early intervention is challenging.<sup>8</sup>

# What Is the Current Practice?

Over the past 20 years, provinces and territories across Canada have established organized colorectal cancer screening programs. While screening guidelines vary between jurisdictions, they generally recommend screening asymptomatic, average-risk individuals between the ages of 50 and 74 or 75 every 12 to 24 months using a fecal test, such as the fecal immunochemical test or the guaiac fecal test, as the primary screening method.<sup>9</sup> These guidelines align with recommendations from the Canadian Task Force on Preventive Health Care.<sup>10</sup>

Individuals who receive abnormal results from a fecal test are typically referred for further evaluation with a colonoscopy.<sup>9,11</sup> In some jurisdictions, individuals may also be referred directly for colonoscopy by a primary care provider or through self-referral, depending on their risk level.<sup>9,12,13</sup> Colonoscopy is a medical procedure

used to examine the large intestine. It is performed using a colonoscope, a flexible, hand-held, tube-like device equipped with a high-definition camera at its tip. The colonoscope is inserted into the large intestine, and the camera provides a real-time video feed that allows clinicians to inspect the colon and rectum for abnormalities. During the procedure, polyps, adenomas, or other suspicious tissues can be sampled or removed as necessary.<sup>14</sup> Though colonoscopy has been established as a highly sensitive and definitive test, it may not detect polyps or colorectal neoplasia if they are small or located in hard-to-see areas.<sup>15,16</sup> Colonoscopies are usually performed in hospitals, clinics, or doctors' offices, and they take about 30 to 45 minutes.<sup>17</sup>

Data from the 2017 cycle of the Canadian Community Health Survey suggest that there are disparities in access to colorectal cancer screening programs, with newcomers to Canada and members of racialized groups experiencing inequities.<sup>18</sup> To help address these challenges, many colorectal screening programs have implemented strategies to increase and improve screening in different populations, including rural and remote populations; groups that are underserved; 2SLGBTQ+ populations; and First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Peoples. For example, the Alberta Colorectal Cancer Screening Program has worked with Indigenous partners to develop and provide culturally appropriate information and has piloted nurse practitioner–led integrated mobile screening services to increase community outreach.<sup>9</sup>

When it comes to treatment, how colorectal cancer is managed depends on the location and stage of the disease. Surgical resection is the primary form of treatment, but additional options include chemotherapy (e.g., capecitabine, irinotecan), radiotherapy, targeted therapy (e.g., bevacizumab, cetuximab), and immunotherapy (e.g., ipilimumab, pembrolizumab).<sup>19-21</sup>

# What Is AI-Assisted Colonoscopy and What Are Its Potential Benefits?

Al is a branch computer science, statistics, and engineering that uses algorithms or models to perform tasks and exhibit behaviours such as learning, making decisions, and making predictions.<sup>22</sup> In recent years, AI has driven significant technological advancements in health care. AI-enabled technologies have been developed to assist with decision-making in patient diagnosis and treatment, transcribe medical documents, aid in drug discovery and development, and streamline clinical workflows by automating administrative tasks.<sup>23-25</sup>

Al-assisted colonoscopy systems have been developed to analyze real-time images generated during the procedure, identifying areas of concern. These systems typically highlight suspicious regions of the large intestine with a visual marker, such as a box, to indicate potential mucosal abnormalities. In real-time, the clinician can then assess these flagged regions as part of their evaluation and make a final decision on whether to remove or biopsy the identified abnormality.<sup>26</sup> The first Al-assisted colonoscopy system to receive Health Canada licensing for sale was introduced in 2021.<sup>26,27</sup> Since then, Al-assisted colonoscopy has been implemented in various clinical settings across Canada.<sup>28-30</sup> Globally, there are many different types of Al-assisted colonoscopy systems currently available or under development, many of which are compatible with any colonoscope and do not require specialized infrastructure to implement.<sup>31</sup> The potential benefits of Al-assisted colonoscopy may include increased detection rates of polyps and other abnormalities, reduced adenoma miss rates, and improved inter-reader or inter-centre variability in colonoscopy, which could lead to earlier intervention and improved patient outcomes.<sup>32</sup>

# Why Is It Important to Do This Review?

Colonoscopy plays a critical role in colorectal cancer screening programs across Canada, yet the issue of missed polyps and colorectal neoplasia during the procedure remains a significant concern.<sup>33,34</sup> Al-assisted colonoscopy systems have the potential to increase detection rates and improve patient outcomes. A review of the available evidence is important to understand how these systems may impact the effectiveness of colonoscopy and to guide informed decision-making regarding their implementation into clinical practice.

# **Objective**

The purpose of this rapid review is to identify, summarize, and critically appraise evidence comparing the clinical and cost-effectiveness of AI-assisted colonoscopy to conventional colonoscopy, as well as make comparisons among different AI-assisted systems, for detecting polyps, adenomas, precancerous lesions, and colorectal cancer.

# Methods

An information specialist conducted a customized literature search, balancing comprehensiveness with relevancy, of multiple sources and grey literature on October 9, 2024. One reviewer screened citations and selected studies based on the inclusion criteria presented in <u>Table 1</u> and critically appraised included publications using established critical appraisal tools. <u>Appendix 1</u> presents a detailed description of methods and selection of included studies.

Criteria	Description
Population	People undergoing colonoscopy for the screening, diagnosis, or surveillance of polyps, adenomas, precancerous lesions, or colorectal cancer
Intervention	Real-time AI-assisted colonoscopy
Comparator	Q1 and Q3: Conventional colonoscopy (i.e., performed without AI assistance) Q2 and Q4: Real-time AI-assisted colonoscopy with alternative systems
Outcomes	<ul><li>Q1 and Q2: Clinical benefits (e.g., detection rates, miss rates, polyps per procedure, procedure time) and harms (e.g., adverse events)</li><li>Q3 and Q4: Cost-effectiveness (e.g., cost per quality-adjusted life-year gained)</li></ul>
Study designs	Q1: HTAs and SRs Q2: HTAs, SRs, RCTs, and nonrandomized studies Q3 and Q4: HTAs, SRs, and economic evaluations
Publication date	Since January 1, 2019

# **Table 1: Selection Criteria**

AI = artificial intelligence; HTA = health technology assessment; RCT = randomized controlled trial; SR = systematic review.

# **Summary of Evidence**

# **Quantity of Research Available**

This report includes 1 HTA,<sup>35</sup> 3 SRs,<sup>36-38</sup> and 1 RCT.<sup>39</sup> <u>Appendix 1</u> presents the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA)<sup>40</sup> flow chart of the study selection. Appendix 6 provides additional references of potential interest that did not meet our inclusion criteria.

# **Summary of Study Characteristics**

Summaries of study characteristics are organized by research question. <u>Appendix 2</u> provides detailed characteristics of the included publications.

# Included Studies for Question 1: Clinical Effectiveness of AI-Assisted Colonoscopy Versus Conventional Colonoscopy

We identified 4 SRs with meta-analyses,<sup>35-38</sup> 1 of which was conducted as part of an HTA,<sup>35</sup> to address this research question. These SRs<sup>35-38</sup> included data from a total of 54 unique primary clinical studies; however, there was considerable overlap among the included primary studies. As a result, the pooled effect estimates from separate reviews are based on much of the same data, although not all reviews reported the same outcomes. A citation matrix illustrating the degree of primary study overlap is presented in <u>Appendix 5</u>.

The authors of the SR and meta-analysis conducted as part of the HTA by Health Technology Wales<sup>35</sup> searched for studies published between January 2010 and March 2024. The authors included 4 SRs with meta-analyses of RCTs and 7 further RCTs that were published after the latest search in their included SRs. In total, their analysis included evidence from 39 RCTs.

In the 2 included SRs with meta-analyses<sup>36</sup> study design was limited to RCTs. The SR by Lee et al.<sup>36</sup> included 26 RCTs published up to March 2023, while the SR by Aslam et al.<sup>38</sup> included 11 RCTs published up to April 21, 2022.

The authors of the fourth SR with meta-analysis<sup>37</sup> searched for nonrandomized studies published between January 1, 2020, and April 1, 2023, and identified 12 relevant nonrandomized studies.

Two SRs with meta-analyses<sup>35,36</sup> provided information on the age and sex of participants from the included primary studies; however, the authors did not report how sex was defined or measured. None of the included SRs<sup>35-38</sup> provided participant information for other PROGRESS-Plus criteria,<sup>41,42</sup> such as place of residence, race, ethnicity, culture, language, occupation, religion, education, socioeconomic status, or social capital.

A variety of AI-enabled colonoscopy systems were evaluated across the included SRs and metaanalyses,<sup>35-38</sup> including CAD EYE, Deep-GI, Eagle-Eye, ENDO-AID, EndoAngel, EndoScreener, EndoVigilant, GI Genius, MAGENTIQ-COLO, SKOUT, and other self-developed or unnamed systems.

Clinical outcomes assessed across the 4 SRs with meta-analyses<sup>35-38</sup> to address research question 1 included:

• detection rates for adenomas, polyps, sessile serrated lesions, or carcinomas

- the number of adenomas, polyps, or sessile serrated lesions detected per colonoscopy
- miss rates for adenomas or sessile serrated lesions
- withdrawal time
- procedure time
- adverse events (e.g., polypectomies of non-neoplastic lesions per colonoscopy).

# Included Studies for Question 2: Clinical Effectiveness of Different AI-Assisted Colonoscopy Systems Versus Each Other

We found 1 RCT<sup>39</sup> that evaluated the clinical effectiveness of 2 different AI-assisted colonoscopy systems. This parallel-group RCT<sup>39</sup> included 1,200 participants between the ages of 50 and 75 years who were randomized to receive colonoscopy performed with Deep-GI, CAD EYE, or conventional white-light endoscopy (1:1:1 ratio). Only data from the Deep-GI and CAD EYE groups were considered relevant for addressing research question 2. The study<sup>39</sup> was conducted at 5 endoscopy referral centres in Thailand between February 2022 and May 2023. The mean age of participants was 62.7 years, and the proportion of male participants was 39.8% (other sexes or genders were not reported). The authors also provided the following information on study participants: body mass index, family history of colorectal cancer, and smoking status. No other PROGRESS-Plus criteria<sup>41,42</sup> were reported.

Clinical outcomes assessed included adenoma, proximal adenoma, and advanced adenoma detection rates; the number of adenomas, proximal adenomas, and advanced adenomas detected per colonoscopy; and adverse events.

Though the authors of this study<sup>39</sup> provided results for each of the AI-assisted colonoscopy groups separately, their statistical analysis compared outcomes of either AI-assisted colonoscopy group to the control group (i.e., conventional white-light colonoscopy) rather than against each other, limiting the applicability of their findings to our research question.

# Included Studies for Question 3: Cost-Effectiveness of AI-Assisted Colonoscopy Versus Conventional Colonoscopy

We identified 1 HTA<sup>35</sup> that provided information on the cost-effectiveness of AI-assisted colonoscopy versus conventional colonoscopy. The HTA<sup>35</sup> included an SR of economic evidence that summarized findings from 5 relevant economic evaluations. <u>Appendix 2</u> (<u>Table 5</u>) details the characteristics of these 5 economic evaluations, as reported in Health Technology Wales (2024).<sup>35</sup>

In addition to the SR,<sup>35</sup> Health Technology Wales researchers developed their own cost-utility analysis to evaluate the cost-effectiveness of AI-assisted colonoscopy compared with conventional colonoscopy for the detection of cancer and precancerous lesions from the perspective of the UK National Health Service (NHS). They used a decision tree model to capture the effects of each screening approach. Everyone entering the model had undergone either AI-assisted colonoscopy or conventional colonoscopy and were then assigned to various health states (e.g., nothing detected, low-risk adenoma, high-risk adenoma, colorectal cancer). Costs and benefits (i.e., quality-adjusted life-years) were evaluated over a lifetime horizon and discounted at an annual rate of 3.5%.

Clinical model inputs (e.g., cohort characteristics, adenoma detection rates, consequences of missed polyps) were drawn from meta-analyses conducted as part of the HTA<sup>35</sup> and various sources of published literature. Cost inputs were sourced from NHS Supply Chain, 2021–2022 NHS reference costs, manufacturers of Al-assisted colonoscopy systems, and various sources of published literature and unpublished data. Costs were inflated to 2021–2022 prices using the NHS cost inflation index. Quality-adjusted life-year inputs and model-state transition probabilities were sourced from unpublished data or a previous National Institute for Health and Care Excellence assessment of fecal immunochemical testing to guide colorectal cancer pathway referral in primary care, or they were based on assumptions.<sup>35</sup>

# Included Studies for Question 4: Cost-Effectiveness of Different AI-Assisted Colonoscopy Systems Versus Each Other

We found no relevant studies that addressed research question 4; therefore, no summary can be provided.

# **Summary of Critical Appraisal**

Critical appraisal summaries are organized by study design. <u>Appendix 3</u> presents additional details regarding the strengths and limitations of the included publications.

### **Systematic Reviews**

The authors of all 4 SRs,<sup>35-38</sup> including the SR from the HTA,<sup>35</sup> clearly defined their objectives and eligibility criteria, conducted comprehensive literature searches across multiple databases, and provided details on key search terms and search dates. They also included flow charts illustrating the study selection along with their reasons for excluding studies. These methodological strengths increase the reproducibility of the SRs. The review methods for all 4 SRs<sup>35-38</sup> were established before conducting the reviews (e.g., they were documented in published protocols), reducing the risk of reporting bias. The quality of the included primary studies was assessed using transparent and satisfactory techniques in 3 SRs,<sup>36-38</sup> and the authors of 2 SRs<sup>35,36</sup> reported the sources of funding for the included primary studies. Publication bias was assessed by the authors of 2 SRs<sup>37,38</sup> using funnel plots. In both cases, the authors suggested that the risk for publication bias was low. All 4 SRs<sup>35-38</sup> reported the characteristics of included studies in sufficient detail (e.g., study design, number of participants, study location) and used appropriate methods for the statistical combination of results and assessing statistical heterogeneity (e.g., the l<sup>2</sup> statistic).

As for methodological limitations, the authors of all 4 SRs<sup>35-38</sup> did not conduct a grey literature search, increasing the risk of missing relevant studies that are not published commercially and that may be inaccessible via bibliographic databases (i.e., nonindexed studies). Three SRs<sup>35-37</sup> limited included studies to those published in English or did not specify which languages were eligible for inclusion, potentially introducing language bias and omitting relevant data from non-English studies. In 3 SRs,<sup>35,36,38</sup> it was unclear if study selection, data extraction, or critical appraisal were conducted by a single reviewer or multiple reviewers, creating a risk for inaccuracies in these processes. The authors of all 4 SRs<sup>35-38</sup> included primary studies in pooled analyses regardless of their study quality and did not assess the potential impact of risk of bias on the meta-analysis findings. As such, it is unclear whether results from primary studies with a low risk of bias might have differed from the overall pooled estimates. In 2 SRs,<sup>35,36</sup> the authors did not provide an

explanation for the considerable statistical heterogeneity observed in the meta-analyses. The generalizability of findings from all 4 SRs<sup>35-38</sup> to settings in Canada was unclear because of limited reporting on the characteristics of primary study participants (e.g., across PROGRESS-Plus criteria).<sup>41,42</sup> Finally, the authors of 1 SR<sup>35</sup> did not state their potential conflicts of interest, and the sources of funding for 1 SR<sup>36</sup> was unclear.

## **Randomized Controlled Trial**

The authors of the RCT<sup>39</sup> provided clear descriptions of the study's aim, interventions, comparator, participant eligibility criteria, and main outcomes. The methods for randomization and allocation concealment were appropriate, which reduced the risk of selection bias. Additional methodological strengths were that compliance with the assigned intervention was reliable, outcome measures were valid, and authors reported estimates of random variability (e.g., confidence intervals) and actual P values. Procedural adverse events were recorded, and care providers and settings appeared to be representative of those of interest. The authors declared that they had no potential conflicts of interest related to this work and reported their sources of funding, which were unrelated to industry and considered unlikely to have influenced the study's findings.

Several factors affected the internal and external validity of this RCT.<sup>39</sup> Because of the nature of the intervention, endoscopists (i.e., outcome assessors) were aware of the intervention each participant received. This could have led to differential treatment across treatment arms, potentially introducing bias into the estimates of treatment effects. Additionally, endoscopists may have modified their approach to colonoscopy, knowing that the results of their examination were being recorded for the study (i.e., the Hawthorne effect), potentially influencing study findings. Although the authors reported some relevant baseline participant characteristics (e.g., age, sex, body mass index), many important characteristics that stratify health opportunities and outcomes were not reported, such as race, ethnicity, culture, language, place of residence, socioeconomic status, and other PROGRESS-Plus criteria.<sup>41,42</sup> As a result, it remains unclear whether the study population is representative and whether the findings of this RCT<sup>39</sup> conducted in Thailand can be generalized to settings in Canada.

#### **Economic Evaluation**

The authors of the economic evaluation<sup>35</sup> clearly stated their research question, objectives, the economic importance of the research question, the screening strategies compared, and rationale for conducting the analysis from the perspective of the NHS and Personal Social Services using a lifetime horizon. They provided detailed information on the sources of the effectiveness estimates, utility values, and treatment costs. The authors recorded the currency and price data used and the methods for adjusting prices for inflation, described their approach to sensitivity analyses, reported incremental analyses, provided an answer to the study question, and summarized the findings with conclusions accompanied by appropriate caveats.

The primary limitation of the economic evaluation<sup>35</sup> is the uncertain generalizability of its findings to settings in Canada. Key model inputs were mainly derived from UK data. Results from deterministic scenario analyses conducted as part of the economic evaluation suggest that changes to several model inputs (e.g., cost of non-neoplastic lesion removal) could lead to different conclusions about the cost-effectiveness of AI-assisted colonoscopy. Any differences in adenoma prevalence, colorectal cancer screening strategies, consequences of missed polyps, and the costs associated with implementing AI-assisted

colonoscopy between health care systems in the UK and Canada could impact the relevance of the costeffectiveness findings.

# **Summary of Findings**

<u>Appendix 4</u> presents additional details regarding the main study findings.

#### Clinical Effectiveness of AI-Assisted Colonoscopy Versus Conventional Colonoscopy

Evidence regarding the clinical effectiveness of AI-assisted colonoscopy versus conventional colonoscopy for the detection of polyps, adenomas, precancerous lesions, and colorectal cancer was available from 4 SRs with meta-analyses.<sup>35-38</sup> There was considerable overlap in the primary studies that were included in these SRs; the pooled estimates from separate reviews thus contain much of the same data (refer to <u>Appendix 5</u> for details regarding overlap).

#### **Detection Rates**

The results from all 4 SRs with meta-analyses<sup>35-38</sup> indicate that AI-assisted colonoscopy has statistically significantly higher adenoma detection rates than conventional colonoscopy. Similarly, pooled analyses from 2 SRs<sup>35,38</sup> suggest that AI-assisted colonoscopy results in statistically significantly higher polyp detection rates than conventional colonoscopy.

For advanced adenoma detection rates, pooled estimates from 2 SRs<sup>35,36</sup> indicate no difference between Al-assisted colonoscopy and conventional colonoscopy.

Findings for sessile serrated lesion detection rates were mixed. One SR,<sup>35</sup> based on a pooled analysis of 19 RCTs, reported that AI-assisted colonoscopy was associated with statistically significantly higher sessile serrated lesion detection rates. Another SR,<sup>36</sup> based on a pooled analysis of 12 RCTs, found no statistically significant difference in sessile serrated lesion detection rates.

One SR<sup>35</sup> provided a narrative summary of 13 RCTs that evaluated carcinoma detection rates of Al-assisted colonoscopy versus conventional colonoscopy. There was no evidence of a difference in carcinoma detection rates between the groups in any of these primary studies. The confidence intervals for many of these comparisons were wide, indicating imprecision in the effect estimates. This imprecision may have been because of the low event rates for carcinoma detection, which ranged from 0% to 4% in Al-assisted colonoscopy groups and between 0% to 3.2% for conventional colonoscopy groups across the 13 RCTs.

#### Abnormalities Detected Per Colonoscopy

Two SRs with meta-analyses<sup>36,37</sup> reported mixed evidence on the effect of AI-assisted colonoscopy on the number of abnormalities detected per colonoscopy. AI-assisted colonoscopy was associated with statistically significant increases in the number of adenomas detected per colonoscopy based on a pooled analysis of 23 RCTs by Lee et al.<sup>36</sup> The other SR<sup>37</sup> found no statistically significant difference in adenomas per colonoscopy, based on a pooled analysis of 6 nonrandomized studies.

One SR with meta-analysis<sup>36</sup> compared the number of advanced adenomas and the number of sessile serrated lesions detected per colonoscopy with and without AI assistance. For both outcomes, there was

no statistically significant difference between AI-assisted colonoscopy and conventional colonoscopy. The findings for advanced adenomas were based on a pooled analysis of 13 RCTs, while those for sessile serrated lesions were based on pooled data from 16 RCTs.

#### Miss Rates

Two SRs with meta-analyses<sup>35,36</sup> described the clinical effectiveness of AI-assisted colonoscopy versus conventional colonoscopy with respect to miss rates:

- Both SRs found that AI-assisted colonoscopy led to statistically significantly lower adenoma miss rates, based on pooled analyses of 6 RCTs<sup>35</sup> and 24 RCTs.<sup>36</sup>
- One SR<sup>35</sup> reported no differences in advanced adenoma miss rates, based on a pooled analysis of 3 RCTs.
- One SR<sup>35</sup> reported that AI-assisted colonoscopy resulted in statistically significantly lower sessile serrated lesion miss rates, based on a pooled analysis of 4 RCTs.

#### Withdrawal Times

Three SRs with meta-analyses<sup>35,36,38</sup> provided mixed results for withdrawal times:

- One SR<sup>35</sup> provided a narrative summary of a previous SR with meta-analysis (Lou et al. [2023]), which included a pooled analysis of 18 RCTs. The authors of this analysis estimated that withdrawal times excluding biopsy were statistically significantly longer for patients who received Al-assisted colonoscopy. The mean difference of 20 seconds was considered clinically unimportant by experts contacted by Health Technology Wales. The authors of the SR<sup>35</sup> also conducted a narrative review of 10 further RCTs that reported withdrawal time excluding biopsy; 3 RCTs reported a small but clinically unimportant increase in withdrawal time for Al-assisted colonoscopy, while the remaining 7 RCTs studies reported no difference between groups. For withdrawal times including biopsy, the SR<sup>35</sup> summarized the findings from a previous SR with meta-analysis of 4 RCTs (Huang et al. [2022]) and a 4 further RCTs, which suggested that Al-assisted colonoscopy was associated with small statistically significant increases in time. The clinical importance of these increases was not specified.
- Two SRs,<sup>36,38</sup> without distinguishing withdrawal times with or without biopsy, found that AI-assisted colonoscopy led to statistically significantly longer withdrawal times. These findings were based on pooled analyses of 18 RCTs in 1 review<sup>36</sup> and 8 RCTs in the other.<sup>38</sup>

#### **Procedure Times**

The authors of 1 SR<sup>35</sup> conducted a narrative synthesis of 6 RCTs that provided information on procedure times. Among these, 1 RCT found a statistically significant increase in procedure times with AI-assisted colonoscopy compared to conventional colonoscopy, with the difference being less than 1 minute. Experts contacted by Health Technology Wales considered this difference not clinically important. There was no evidence of a difference in procedure times between the groups in any of the remaining 5 RCTs.

#### Adverse Events

One included SR<sup>35</sup> provided a narrative synthesis of adverse event data from 2 previous SRs with metaanalysis (Lou et al. [2023]; Hassan et al. [2023b]) and 5 additional RCTs. Findings from 2 SRs, based on pooled estimates from 18 RCTs and 12 RCTs, and 1 additional RCT suggest that AI-assisted colonoscopy leads to statistically significant increases in the number of polypectomies of non-neoplastic lesions per colonoscopy.

Findings for non-neoplastic lesion resection rates were mixed.<sup>35</sup> One SR (Lou et al. [2023]) found no statistically significant difference in non-neoplastic lesion resection rates between AI-assisted colonoscopy and conventional colonoscopy. One RCT summarized in the SR<sup>35</sup> reported statistically significantly higher non-neoplastic lesion resection rates in the AI-assisted colonoscopy group compared to the conventional colonoscopy group.

The SR<sup>35</sup> summarized data from 22 RCTs on overall adverse event rates. Of these, 18 RCTs reported no adverse events, while 4 RCTs reported that at least 1 adverse event occurred. There was no evidence of a difference in adverse event rates between the groups in any of these studies (i.e., P values were insignificant or were not reported).

#### Clinical Effectiveness of Different Al-Assisted Colonoscopy Systems Versus Each Other

One included RCT<sup>39</sup> provided information on the clinical effectiveness of 2 different AI-assisted colonoscopy systems, Deep-GI and CAD EYE.

### **Detection Rates**

The RCT<sup>39</sup> reported adenoma detection rates of 54.8% for the Deep-GI group and 50.0% for the CAD EYE group, proximal adenoma detection rates of 38.8% for the Deep-GI group and 32.3% for the CAD EYE group, advanced adenoma detection rates of 9.5% for the Deep-GI group and 10.3% for the CAD EYE group, and sessile serrated lesion detection rates of 3.0% for the Deep-GI group and 2.3% for the CAD EYE group. The authors of the RCT<sup>39</sup> did not perform statistical testing to assess whether differences in any of the detection rates between the groups were significant.

# Abnormalities Detected Per Colonoscopy

The RCT<sup>39</sup> reported 1.16 adenomas per colonoscopy in the Deep-GI group and 1.04 in the CAD EYE group, 0.64 proximal adenomas per colonoscopy in the Deep-GI group and 0.53 in the CAD EYE group, and 0.10 advanced adenomas per colonoscopy in the Deep-GI group and 0.12 in the CAD EYE group. The authors of the RCT<sup>39</sup> did not perform statistical testing to assess whether the between-group differences in the mean number of abnormalities detected per colonoscopy were statistically significant.

#### Withdrawal Times

The RCT<sup>39</sup> reported median withdrawal times, excluding the time spent on fecal debris irrigation and polypectomy, of 10 minutes (interquartile range, 7 to 12) for both the Deep-GI group and the CAD EYE group.

#### Adverse Events

The authors of the RCT<sup>39</sup> reported that there were no procedural adverse events.

# Cost-Effectiveness of AI-Assisted Colonoscopy Versus Conventional Colonoscopy

Evidence regarding the cost-effectiveness of AI-assisted colonoscopy was available from 5 economic evaluations summarized in an SR and 1 additional economic evaluation. The SR and primary economic evaluation were both conducted as part of the included HTA.<sup>35</sup>

The findings from 4 analyses, including 1 study that was conducted from the perspective of a health care system in Canada, suggest that AI-assisted colonoscopy is less costly and more effective than conventional colonoscopy (i.e., dominant). The 2 other economic evaluations indicate that AI-assisted colonoscopy is cost-effective versus conventional colonoscopy at their specified willingness-to-pay thresholds, which were £20,000 and ¥5 million per quality-adjusted life-year gained.

# Cost-Effectiveness of Different AI-Assisted Colonoscopy Systems Versus Each Other

We found no relevant evidence regarding the cost-effectiveness of different AI-assisted colonoscopy systems versus each other for the detection of polyps, adenomas, precancerous lesions, and colorectal cancer; therefore, no summary can be provided.

# Limitations

# **Evidence Gaps**

Evidence comparing the clinical effectiveness of different AI-assisted colonoscopy systems was limited to 1 RCT.<sup>39</sup> This RCT<sup>39</sup> included 2 different AI-assisted colonoscopy treatment arms: 1 group received colonoscopy with the Deep-GI system, and the other with the CAD EYE system. However, the authors' statistical analysis did not directly compare outcomes between these 2 groups; instead, each was individually compared to a control group that received conventional colonoscopy. As of November 2024, neither the Deep-GI system nor the CAD EYE system appear to be available for clinical use in Canada. Furthermore, we found no evidence comparing the cost-effectiveness of different AI-assisted colonoscopy systems for detecting polyps, adenomas, precancerous lesions, and colorectal cancer. Consequently, no conclusions can be drawn regarding the relative clinical or cost-effectiveness of different AI-assisted colonoscopy systems.

None of the included clinical studies reported long-term outcomes, such as colorectal cancer incidence and mortality; therefore, the impact of AI-assisted colonoscopy on these outcomes is unknown.

# **Risk of Bias of Included Studies in SRs**

The evidence on the clinical effectiveness of AI-assisted colonoscopy compared to conventional colonoscopy summarized within this report is from 4 SRs<sup>35-38</sup> that included data from a total of 54 unique primary clinical studies. Though we did not conduct our own critical appraisal of each primary study, the authors of the SRs<sup>35-38</sup> noted that some studies had methodological limitations affecting the validity and reliability of their results. For example, many studies were at risk for performance bias because participants, endoscopists, and outcome assessors were aware of the treatment allocation. Some RCTs were also at risk for selection bias because of their methods for random sequence generation and allocation concealment. Pooled estimates

from the meta-analyses in each of these SRs<sup>35-38</sup> included data from all relevant studies, regardless of their risk of bias. These potential biases may influence the robustness of the findings.

# Generalizability

The primary clinical studies included in the 4 SRs<sup>35-38</sup> summarized in this report took place across a variety of locations, including China, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the UK, the US, and Vietnam. However, because none of these clinical studies were conducted in Canada, differences in colonoscopy practices or patient populations between these locations and Canada may limit the generalizability of this evidence to settings in Canada.

We used PROGRESS-Plus<sup>41,42</sup> to guide data extraction and to provide insights into whether the clinical studies conducted to date included diverse patient populations who could be representative of those in Canada. However, the literature we reviewed for this report provided limited information on participant characteristics, often not reporting any participant demographics or clinical characteristics, or only reporting a few factors such as age or sex. In cases where participant sex or gender were reported, the authors did not provide any information on how they were defined or measured.

Al systems that are trained, validated, and tested using diverse datasets are more likely to be generalizable to new populations and settings, reducing the risk of issues like overfitting bias.<sup>43-46</sup> Because of the limited information available on the patient populations used to test the performance of AI-assisted colonoscopy, we cannot comment on whether the study populations were representative of the clinical settings in which they are intended to be deployed. As such, it is uncertain if the effects of AI-assisted colonoscopy are generalizable, consistent, and robust across diverse patient populations.

# **Conclusions and Implications for Decision- or Policy-Making**

This review includes 1 HTA (which included 1 SR with meta-analyses and 1 economic evaluation),<sup>35</sup> 3 SRs with meta-analyses,<sup>36-38</sup> and 1 RCT<sup>39</sup> regarding the clinical or cost-effectiveness of AI-assisted colonoscopy for detecting polyps, adenomas, precancerous lesions, or colorectal cancer. The evidence summarized in this report is drawn from SRs with substantial overlap in primary studies, meaning that data from the same participants were included in more than 1 SR (refer to <u>Appendix 5</u> for a citation matrix illustrating the degree of primary study overlap). As a result, some evidence may be disproportionally represented in the overall conclusions.

# **Summary of Evidence**

The evidence summarized in this report indicates that AI-assisted colonoscopy has the potential to improve clinical outcomes compared to conventional colonoscopy. For most outcomes, including detection rates, the number of abnormalities detected per colonoscopy, and miss rates, there were some mixed findings, with some estimates suggesting that AI-assisted colonoscopy led to significant improvements, while other studies suggest there is no evidence to indicate that 1 method is superior to the other. Variability in results may have been due to differences in patient populations, clinical settings, study designs, and the specific

Al-assisted colonoscopy systems used. For example, the SR by Lee et al.,<sup>36</sup> which included data from 23 RCTs, reported that Al-assisted colonoscopy was associated with statistically significant increases in the number of adenomas detected per colonoscopy. In contrast, the SR by Wei et al.,<sup>37</sup> which only included data from nonrandomized real-world studies, found no statistically significant difference in adenomas detected per colonoscopy.

Among the 6 economic evaluations summarized, 4 reported that AI-assisted colonoscopy was less costly while generating more quality-adjusted life-years than conventional colonoscopy.<sup>35</sup> The authors of the remaining 2 studies estimated that AI-assisted colonoscopy was more costly and generated more benefits than conventional colonoscopy and was likely to be cost-effective at willingness-to-pay thresholds of £20,000 and ¥5 million per quality-adjusted life-year gained.<sup>35</sup>

Evidence comparing the clinical and cost-effectiveness of different AI-assisted colonoscopy systems was limited. One included RCT<sup>39</sup> allocated participants to receive AI-assisted colonoscopy using either the Deep-GI system or the CAD EYE system. However, the authors did not perform statistical testing to determine whether there were any significant differences between the groups. Additionally, we did not identify any relevant studies that evaluated the relative cost-effectiveness of different AI-assisted colonoscopy systems.

# **Considerations for Future Research**

Numerous AI-assisted colonoscopy systems have been developed by different manufacturers, yet evidence from head-to-head trials remains limited. Future research that directly compares different AI-assisted colonoscopy systems could be informative for decision-makers who are looking to implement specific technologies.

The current evidence is highly focused on procedure-related outcomes, such as adenoma detection rates, the number of adenomas detected per colonoscopy, adenoma miss rates, and withdrawal times. Future studies that evaluate long-term outcomes, such as colorectal cancer incidence and mortality, could provide a more comprehensive understanding of the clinical effectiveness of AI-assisted colonoscopy and help reduce uncertainty in future economic evaluations.

In Canada, disparities in colorectal cancer incidence, mortality, and treatment outcomes exist among various demographic groups.<sup>18</sup> To provide insights into how AI-assisted colonoscopy could mitigate or exacerbate these health inequities, future studies should collect and report equity-relevant population characteristics, such as place of residence, race, ethnicity, culture, language, occupation, gender, sex, religion, education, socioeconomic status, and social capital. This information would help determine whether equity-deserving groups were represented and whether study findings are likely to be generalizable to other settings.

The literature we reviewed as part of this report did not provide any information on the methods used to develop, train, and refine machine learning models that are used by various AI-enabled polyp detection systems.<sup>35-39</sup> Transparent reporting of these aspects may improve the explainability and intelligibility of these systems; help to build trust and accountability; and empower patients, clinicians, and policy-makers to make informed decisions regarding their use.<sup>47,48</sup>

# **Implications for Clinical Practice and Policy-Making**

The findings of this report suggest that AI-assisted colonoscopy may improve clinical outcomes and be costeffective compared to conventional colonoscopy. However, there is some uncertainty as to whether these findings are generalizable to settings in Canada. AI-enabled medical devices often face significant challenges in achieving generalizability across new populations and clinical settings.<sup>49</sup> Differences in observed treatment effects between controlled clinical trials and real-world clinical practice may arise because of many factors, including implementation and workflow challenges and mismatches between the patient data used to train and validate machine learning models and the target population.<sup>50,51</sup> For example, clinicians in clinical trials may receive specialized training on how to use the intervention being studied, whereas clinicians in realworld settings may have limited training or support.<sup>52,53</sup> Decision-makers who intend to implement AI-assisted colonoscopy systems as a part of routine clinical care should consider conducting ongoing monitoring to determine whether the system's performance is meeting their expectations.

Our literature search identified an ongoing assessment<sup>54</sup> of AI software to help detect and characterize colorectal polyps by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence, which could offer additional insights for decision-makers. Although the project does not yet have an expected publication date, the final protocol<sup>55</sup> and scope documents<sup>56</sup> suggest that this assessment may address some of the evidence gaps highlighted in this report. For example, it plans to evaluate the impact of AI software on long-term outcomes (e.g., rates of colorectal cancer diagnosis and mortality) and provide information on other key considerations, including the impact of endoscopist skill and experience, workforce capacity, equality issues, and implementation challenges.

Potential implementers of AI-assisted colonoscopy systems may also wish to reflect on the interoperability of these systems with existing colonoscopy equipment and workflows. The included HTA<sup>35</sup> noted that not all AI-assisted colonoscopy systems are compatible with all colonoscopes from all manufacturers.

The limitations of the included literature, such as the lack of evidence comparing different types of AI-assisted colonoscopy systems, the variable quality of primary studies included in identified SRs, uncertainties in the economic models, and concerns regarding the generalizability of findings to settings in Canada, should be considered when interpreting the conclusions of this report.

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# **Appendix 1: Detailed Methods and Selection of Included Studies**

Please note that this appendix has not been copy-edited.

## **Literature Search Methods**

An information specialist conducted a literature search on key resources including MEDLINE, the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews, the International HTA Database, the websites of major international health technology agencies and health technology agencies in Canada, as well as a focused internet search. The search approach was customized to retrieve a limited set of results, balancing comprehensiveness with relevance. The search strategy comprised both controlled vocabulary, such as the National Library of Medicine's MeSH (Medical Subject Headings), and keywords. Search concepts were developed based on the elements of the research questions and selection criteria. The main search concepts were colonoscopy and artificial intelligence. Search filters were applied to limit retrieval to HTA, SRs, meta-analyses, or indirect treatment comparisons, any types of clinical trials or observational studies, or economic studies. The search was completed on October 9, 2024 and limited to English-language documents published since January 1, 2019.

### **Selection Criteria and Methods**

One reviewer screened citations and selected studies. In the first level of screening, titles and abstracts were reviewed and potentially relevant articles were retrieved and assessed for inclusion. The final selection of full-text articles was based on the inclusion criteria presented in <u>Table 1</u>.

#### **Exclusion Criteria**

Articles were excluded if they met any of the following criteria:

- did not meet the selection criteria outlined in Table 1
- were duplicate publications
- were SRs in which all relevant studies were captured in other more recent or more comprehensive SRs
- were primary studies captured in 1 or more included SRs
- were studies on AI systems that evaluate the quality of bowel preparation before colonoscopy
- were preclinical studies that assessed the performance of AI systems using still images or prerecorded colonoscopy videos (e.g., video-based benchmarking)
- only reported on outcomes related to diagnostic accuracy (e.g., sensitivity, specificity).

#### **Critical Appraisal of Individual Studies**

The included publications were critically appraised by 1 reviewer using the following tools as a guide: A MeaSurement Tool to Assess systematic Reviews 2 (AMSTAR 2)<sup>57</sup> for SRs, the Downs and Black checklist<sup>58</sup>

for RCTs, and the Drummond checklist<sup>59</sup> for economic evaluations. Summary scores were not calculated for the included studies; rather, the strengths and limitations of each included publication were described narratively.

#### **Equity Considerations**

We used PROGRESS-Plus,<sup>41,42</sup> 1 tool to describe equity-deserving groups, to guide data extraction and report writing. Each included publication was checked to determine if relevant PROGRESS-Plus criteria were reported by study authors to describe the participants. When available, detailed participant characteristics were then extracted and reported in tables in <u>Appendix 2</u>. The main PROGRESS-Plus criteria include place of residence, race, ethnicity, culture, language, occupation, gender, sex, religion, education, socioeconomic status, social capital, personal characteristics associated with discrimination (e.g., age, disability), features of relationships, and time-dependent relationships.<sup>41,42</sup>

When reporting on sex or gender in this rapid review, we retained the language used by the original study authors and whenever possible we referred to these groups based on guidance from the CDA-AMC style guide<sup>60</sup> at the time this rapid review was conducted, with an understanding that language is constantly evolving.



# Figure 1: Selection of Included Studies

# **Appendix 2: Characteristics of Included Publications**

Please note that this appendix has not been copy-edited.

# Table 2: Characteristics of Included HTA and SRs

Study citation, country, funding	Study designs and numbers of primary studies included	Population characteristics	Intervention and comparator(s)	Relevant outcomes
Health Technology Wales (2024) <sup>35</sup> Wales <b>Funding:</b> Health Technology Wales is funded by the Welsh government.	Study design: An SR of clinical and economic evidence published between January 2010 and March 2024. The HTA also included a de novo cost-utility analysis, which is described in <u>Appendix 2</u> , <u>Table 4</u> Number of included studies: Four SRs with meta-analyses (which included 32 unique English-language RCTs), 7 additional RCTs, and 6 economic studies (5 relevant to the current review) were included	HTAs People who were referred for identification of precancerous lesions, polyps, adenomas, or lower gastrointestinal cancer Age: The mean age of participants from included primary studies within the SRs and the included RCTs ranged from 41.3 years to 67.0 years (when reported) Sex: The proportion of female participants from included primary studies ranged from 23.2% to 68.0%; the proportion of male participants from included primary studies ranged from 32.0% to 76.8% (when reported); other sexes or genders were NR Other PROGRESS-Plus criteria: NR <sup>a</sup>	Intervention: Al-assisted endoscopy with video images reviewed in real- time, used as an adjunct to standard care. Comparator: Endoscopy with video images reviewed in real-time, without Al assistance (i.e., standard care)	<ul> <li>Adenoma, polyp, carcinoma, and lesion detection rates</li> <li>Adenoma and lesion miss rates</li> <li>Procedure time</li> <li>Withdrawal time</li> <li>Time to diagnosis</li> <li>Health-related quality of life</li> <li>Adverse events (e.g., polypectomies of non-neoplastic lesions per colonoscopy)</li> <li>Economic outcomes (e.g., QALYs, ICERs)</li> </ul>
		SRs		
Lee et al. (2024) <sup>36</sup> Canada <b>Funding:</b> NR	Study design: SR and meta-analysis of RCTs published up to March 2023 Number of included studies: 26 RCTs	Patients who underwent colonoscopy for screening, surveillance, or diagnostic purposes <b>Age:</b> The mean age of participants from included primary studies ranged from 46.0 years to 66.3 years (when reported) <b>Sex:</b> The proportion of female participants from included primary studies ranged from 23.5% to	Intervention: Colonoscopy performed with an Al-aided polyp detection system Comparator: Routine high-definition white-light colonoscopy, without Al assistance	<ul> <li>Adenoma, advanced adenoma, and sessile serrated lesion detection rates</li> <li>Adenomas, advanced adenomas, and sessile serrated lesions per colonoscopy</li> <li>Adenoma miss rates</li> <li>Withdrawal time</li> </ul>

Study citation, country, funding	Study designs and numbers of primary studies included	Population characteristics	Intervention and comparator(s)	Relevant outcomes
		57.0% (when reported); other sexes or genders were NR <b>Other PROGRESS-Plus</b> <b>criteria</b> : NR <sup>a</sup>		
Wei et al. (2024) <sup>37</sup> US <b>Funding:</b> No funding	Study design: SR and meta-analysis of nonrandomized studies published between January 1, 2020, and April 1, 2023 Number of included studies: 12 nonrandomized studies	Adults who underwent a colonoscopy for detecting colorectal cancer Age: NR Sex: NR Other PROGRESS-Plus criteria: NR <sup>a</sup>	Intervention: Colonoscopy performed with Al-augmented real- time detection systems Comparator: Conventional colonoscopy (i.e., without Al assistance)	<ul> <li>Adenoma detection rates</li> <li>Adenomas per colonoscopy</li> <li>Adenoma miss rates</li> <li>Withdrawal time</li> </ul>
Aslam et al. (2023) <sup>38</sup> Pakistan <b>Funding:</b> No funding	Study design: SR and meta-analysis of RCTs published up to April 21, 2022 Number of included studies: 11 RCTs	Patients who underwent colonoscopy to detect adenomas or polyps Age: NR Sex: NR Other PROGRESS-Plus criteria: NR <sup>a</sup>	Intervention: Colonoscopy performed with AI-assisted detection systems Comparator: Conventional colonoscopy (i.e., without AI assistance)	<ul> <li>Adenoma detection rates</li> <li>Polyp detection rates</li> <li>Withdrawal time</li> </ul>

AI = artificial intelligence; HTA = health technology assessment; ICER = incremental cost-effectiveness ratio; NR = not reported; QALY = quality-adjusted life-year; RCT = randomized controlled trial; SR = systematic review.

<sup>a</sup>The main PROGRESS-Plus criteria include place of residence, race, ethnicity, culture, language, occupation, gender, sex, religion, education, socioeconomic status, and social capital, personal characteristics associated with discrimination (e.g., age, disability), features of relationships, and time-dependent relationships.<sup>41,42</sup>

# Table 3: Characteristics of Included RCT

Study citation, country, funding	Study design and setting	Population characteristics	Intervention and comparator(s)	Relevant clinical outcomes
Tiankanon et al. (2024) <sup>39</sup> Thailand <b>Funding:</b> Chulalongkorn University, the National Research Council of Thailand, and King Chulalongkorn Memorial Hospital	Multicentre, parallel- group, 3-arm RCT conducted between February 2022 and May 2023 at 5 endoscopy referral centres in Thailand. Data from 2 of the 3 treatment arms, specifically the Deep-GI and CAD EYE arms, were relevant to the current report	Inclusion criteria: Asymptomatic participants, between the ages of 50 and 75 years, who underwent routine screening colonoscopy or were screened after a positive fecal immunochemical test <b>Excluded</b> : Those with a personal history of colorectal cancer, inflammatory bowel diseases, familial polyposis syndrome, or prior colonic resection	Intervention: AI-assisted colonoscopy performed with either the Deep-GI system or the CAD EYE system <b>Comparator</b> : Conventional white-light colonoscopy Only data for the Deep-GI group and the CAD EYE group were considered relevant for addressing research question 2. Data comparing either intervention group with the control group are summarized in an included SR <sup>35</sup>	<ul> <li>Adenoma detection rates</li> <li>Proximal adenoma detection rates</li> <li>Advanced adenoma detection rates</li> <li>Adenomas per colonoscopy</li> <li>Proximal adenomas per colonoscopy</li> <li>Advanced adenomas per colonoscopy</li> <li>Advanced adenomas per colonoscopy</li> <li>Adverse events</li> </ul>

Study citation, country, funding	Study design and setting	Population characteristics	Intervention and comparator(s)	Relevant clinical outcomes
		<b>Number of participants</b> : 400 in the Deep-GI group; 400 in the CAD EYE group		
		<b>Age, mean (SD):</b> 62.7 (7.7) years in the Deep-GI group; 63.2 (6.5) years in the CAD EYE group		
		<b>Sex</b> : 45.3% male in the Deep-GI group; 35.8% male in the CAD EYE group; other sexes or genders were NR		
		<b>BMI, mean (SD)</b> : 23.8 (4.3) kg/m <sup>2</sup> in the Deep-GI group; 23.6 (3.8) kg/m <sup>2</sup> in the CAD EYE group		
		Family history of colorectal cancer: 8.0% in the Deep-GI group; 7.5% in the CAD EYE group		
		Smoking status: 11.0% in the Deep-GI group; 9.3% in the CAD EYE group Other PROGRESS-Plus criteria: NR <sup>a</sup>		

AI = artificial intelligence; BMI = body mass index; NR = not reported; RCT = randomized controlled trial; SD = standard deviation; SR = systematic review.

<sup>a</sup>The main PROGRESS-Plus criteria include place of residence, race, ethnicity, culture, language, occupation, gender, sex, religion, education, socioeconomic status, and social capital, personal characteristics associated with discrimination (e.g., age, disability), features of relationships, and time-dependent relationships.<sup>41,42</sup>

Study citation country, funding	Type of analysis, time horizon, perspective	Population characteristics	Intervention and comparator	Approach	Source of clinical, cost, and utility data used in analysis	Main assumptions
Health Technology Wales (2024) <sup>35</sup> Wales <b>Funding:</b> Health Technology Wales is funded by the Welsh government.	Analysis: Cost-utility analysis conducted as part of an HTA Time horizon: A lifetime horizon Perspective: UK NHS and Personal Social Services	The modelled cohort characteristics reflected study populations from the 39 RCTs included in the SR of clinical evidence conducted as part of the HTA <b>Age, mean (SE):</b> 57.4 (5.8) years <b>Sex:</b> 49% female; other sexes or genders were NR <b>Other PROGRESS-</b> <b>Plus criteria</b> : NR <sup>a</sup>	Intervention: Colonoscopy performed with Al assistance Comparator: Conventional colonoscopy (i.e., without Al assistance)	A decision tree model that captured the short-term outcomes of each colonoscopy screening strategy	Clinical model inputs were drawn from meta-analyses conducted as part of the HTA and various sources of published literature. Cost inputs were sourced from NHS Supply Chain, 2021/22 NHS reference costs, manufacturers, and various sources of published literature and unpublished data. QALY estimates and model-state transition probabilities were sourced from assumptions, unpublished data, or a previous NICE assessment of fecal immunochemical testing to guide colorectal cancer pathway referral in primary care	<ul> <li>Each Al-assisted detection system purchased would be used 71 times per month (based on Welsh data)</li> <li>The average lifespan of an Al-assisted detection system is 4 years</li> <li>Al-assisted colonoscopy improves the detection of low-risk adenoma and high-risk adenoma equally</li> <li>Colonoscopy, polypectomy, and the removal of non- neoplastic lesions had no significant impact on QALYs</li> <li>After the detection and treatment of high-risk adenoma, people would experience the same quality of life as people with no underlying disease</li> </ul>

### Table 4: Characteristics of Included Economic Evaluation

AI = artificial intelligence; HTA = health technology assessment; NHS = UK National Health Service; NICE = National Institute for Health and Care Excellence; NR = not reported; QALY = quality-adjusted life-year; RCT = randomized controlled trial; SE = standard error; SR = systematic review.

<sup>a</sup>The main PROGRESS-Plus criteria include place of residence, race, ethnicity, culture, language, occupation, gender, sex, religion, education, socioeconomic status, and social capital, personal characteristics associated with discrimination (e.g., age, disability), features of relationships, and time-dependent relationships.<sup>41,42</sup>

Study citation country, funding	Type of analysis, time horizon, perspective	Population characteristics	Intervention and comparator	Approach	Source of clinical, cost, and utility data used in analysis	Main assumptions
Barkun et al. (2023) as reported in Health Technology Wales (2024) <sup>35</sup> Canada <b>Funding:</b> The intervention manufacturer.	Analysis: Cost- utility analysis Time horizon: A lifetime horizon Perspective: Health care system	People undergoing colonoscopy following a positive FIT result, aged 50 years or older Age: 50 years Sex: 54.5% male; other sexes or genders were NR Other PROGRESS- Plus criteria: NR <sup>a</sup>	Intervention: Colonoscopy performed with Al assistance (using Gl Genius) Comparator: Conventional colonoscopy (i.e., without Al assistance)	A Markov model captured the incidence of small adenomas and progression through medium and large adenoma to colorectal cancer	Disease prevalence data were retrieved from an Ontario screening program and were adjusted using adenoma miss rates from a meta-analysis. Transition probabilities were sourced from previous modelling studies. Cost data were retrieved from the manufacturer, Canadian schedules, and the literature. Utility data were sourced from a previous cost-utility study or from the literature	NR
Hassan et al. (2023a) as reported in Health Technology Wales (2024) <sup>35</sup> Italy <b>Funding:</b> The intervention manufacturer	Analysis: Cost- utility analysis Time horizon: A lifetime horizon Perspective: Health care system	People undergoing colonoscopy following a positive FIT result Age: 50 years Sex: NR Other PROGRESS- Plus criteria: NR <sup>a</sup>	Intervention: Colonoscopy performed with AI assistance (using GI Genius) Comparator: Conventional colonoscopy (i.e., without AI assistance)	A Markov model captured the incidence of small adenomas and progression through medium and large adenoma to colorectal cancer	Disease prevalence data were retrieved from an Italian screening program and were adjusted using adenoma miss rates from a meta-analysis. Transition probabilities were sourced from previous modelling studies. Cost data came from Italian national tariffs and the literature	NR

# Table 5: Characteristics of Economic Evaluations Included in the SR by Health Technology Wales (2024)<sup>35</sup>

Study citation country, funding	Type of analysis, time horizon, perspective	Population characteristics	Intervention and comparator	Approach	Source of clinical, cost, and utility data used in analysis	Main assumptions
Sekiguchi et al. (2023) as reported in Health Technology Wales (2024) <sup>35</sup> Japan <b>Funding:</b> NR	Analysis: Cost- utility analysis Time horizon: A lifetime horizon Perspective: Health care payer	People at average risk of colorectal cancer between the ages of 40 to 74 years Age: NR Sex: NR Other PROGRESS- Plus criteria: NR <sup>a</sup>	Intervention: Colonoscopy performed with Al assistance after positive FIT Comparator: Conventional colonoscopy (i.e., without Al assistance) after positive FIT	A Markov model captured the incidence of adenomas and progression to advanced adenomas and colorectal cancer	Population characteristics, disease incidence data, and utilization of FIT screening and colonoscopy came from Japanese data. Diagnostic accuracy of Al-assisted colonoscopy came from previous Japanese cost- effectiveness studies. Cost data were from Japanese national reimbursement tables. The source of quality of life data was NR	NR
Thiruvengadam et al. (2023) as reported in Health Technology Wales (2024) <sup>35</sup> US <b>Funding</b> : NR	Analysis: Cost- utility analysis Time horizon: A lifetime horizon (to age 100 years) Perspective: Health care payer	People aged 45 to 75 years undergoing screening colonoscopy Age: 45 years Sex: NR Other PROGRESS- Plus criteria: NRª	Intervention: Colonoscopy performed with Al assistance Comparator: Conventional colonoscopy (i.e., without Al assistance)	A semi-Markov microsimulation captured the natural history incidence of adenomas and colorectal cancer, with progression from low-risk to high-risk adenomas, and local to metastatic colorectal cancer	Clinical inputs were derived from multiple literature sources. The natural history model was based on cohort data from the US, Australia, and Germany. Effectiveness inputs were sourced from the literature. Cost data were obtained from analyses of Medicare, Medicaid, and commercial insurer payment data. Utility data for local, regional, and metastatic colorectal cancer were from the literature	NR

Study citation country, funding	Type of analysis, time horizon, perspective	Population characteristics	Intervention and comparator	Approach	Source of clinical, cost, and utility data used in analysis	Main assumptions
Areia et al. (2022) as reported in Health Technology Wales (2024) <sup>35</sup> US <b>Funding</b> : NR	Analysis: Cost- effectiveness and cost-utility analysis Time horizon: A lifetime horizon (to age 100 years) Perspective: Societal	Screening-eligible populations at average risk for colorectal cancer Age: 50 years (primary analysis) Sex: NR Other PROGRESS- Plus criteria: NR <sup>a</sup>	Intervention: Colonoscopy performed with Al assistance Comparator: Conventional colonoscopy (i.e., without Al assistance)	A Markov microsimulation captured the natural incidence of adenomas and progression from low-risk to high-risk adenomas, stage I to stage IV colorectal cancer, and death	Population characteristics were retrieved from 2008 US Census data. Data on the prevalence of polyps, incidence of colorectal cancer, and survival were derived primarily from studies in the US. Transition probabilities were sourced from the literature. The natural history model was calibrated to historical US data collected before the widespread adoption of colorectal cancer screening programs. Cost inputs were sourced from US manufacturer prices and from analyses of Medicare, Medicaid, and commercial insurer payment data	NR

AI = artificial intelligence; FIT = fecal immunochemical test; HTA = health technology assessment; NR = not reported; QALY = quality-adjusted life-year; SE = standard error; SR = systematic review.

<sup>a</sup>The main PROGRESS-Plus criteria include place of residence, race, ethnicity, culture, language, occupation, gender, sex, religion, education, socioeconomic status, and social capital, personal characteristics associated with discrimination (e.g., age, disability), features of relationships, and time-dependent relationships.<sup>41,42</sup>

# **Appendix 3: Critical Appraisal of Included Publications**

Please note that this appendix has not been copy-edited.

# Table 6: Strengths and Limitations of SRs Using AMSTAR 2<sup>57</sup>

<ul> <li><b>9gy Wales (2024)</b><sup>35</sup></li> <li>Authors did not screen the bibliographies of included studies or related SRs for additional eligible studies, nor did they conduct a grey literature search.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Authors did not screen the bibliographies of included studies or related SRs for additional eligible studies, nor did they conduct a grey literature search</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Authors did not provide justification for restricting to studies published in English</li> <li>It was unclear if study selection, data extraction, and quality assessment were conducted in duplicate</li> <li>A list of studies excluded after full-text review was not provided (although reasons for exclusion were)</li> <li>The authors did not report on overlap in primary studies between the included SRs</li> <li>There was limited reporting of the characteristics of primary study participants (e.g., across PROGRESS-Plus criteria)<sup>41,42</sup></li> <li>Authors reported the main methodological limitations of included studies but provided limited information on their approach for conducting quality assessments. It was unclear if they used a satisfactory technique for assessing the risk of bias in individual studies included in the review</li> <li>Authors did not discuss the potential impact of risk of bias or the quality of the evidence on the results of the meta-analysis</li> <li>Authors did not provide an explanation for, and discussion of, the considerable statistical heterogeneity observed in the meta-analyses</li> <li>There was no investigation on the presence or impact of publication bias</li> </ul>
Review authors did not state their potential conflicts of interest
I. (2024) <sup>36</sup>
<ul> <li>It was unclear if the search had any language restrictions</li> <li>It was unclear if data extraction was conducted in duplicate</li> <li>A list of studies excluded after full-text review was not provided (although reasons for exclusion were)</li> <li>There was limited reporting of the characteristics of primary study participants (e.g., across PROGRESS-Plus criteria)<sup>41,42</sup></li> <li>Authors did not discuss the potential impact of risk of bias or the quality of the evidence on the results of the meta-analysis</li> <li>Authors did not provide an explanation for, and discussion of, the considerable statistical heterogeneity observed in the</li> </ul>

Strengths	Limitations
<ul> <li>Two independent reviewers conducted study selection and quality assessment</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>There was no investigation on the presence or impact of publication bias</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Review authors described the included studies in adequate detail</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Authors did not report whether they received any funding for this study</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>The quality of included primary studies was assessed using a satisfactory technique (i.e., the Cochrane RoB tool)</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Review authors reported on sources of funding for the included primary studies</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Appropriate statistical methods were used for the meta- analysis</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>The authors declared their potential conflicts of interest</li> </ul>	
Wei et a	I. (2024) <sup>37</sup>
<ul> <li>The population, intervention, comparators, and outcomes of interest were clearly stated</li> <li>The review methods were established before conducting the review (a protocol was registered in PROSPERO)</li> <li>The authors explained their selection of eligible study designs</li> <li>The systematic search included multiple databases (PubMed, Embase, and Web of Science). Database searches were supplemented by reviewing the bibliographies of included articles and related SRs for additional eligible studies</li> <li>Key search terms and search restrictions were provided (e.g., studies published in English between January 1, 2020, and April 1, 2023, were eligible)</li> <li>Two independent reviewers conducted study selection, data extraction, and quality assessment</li> <li>Review authors described the included studies in adequate detail</li> <li>The quality of included primary studies was assessed using a satisfactory technique (i.e., the Newcastle–Ottawa scale)</li> <li>Appropriate statistical methods were used for the metaanalysis</li> <li>Authors provided an explanation of the potential reasons for, or discussion of, the considerable statistical heterogeneity that was observed in the meta-analyses</li> <li>Publication bias was assessed using a funnel plot</li> <li>The authors declared their potential conflicts of interest, and no funding was received for this work</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The authors did not conduct a grey literature search</li> <li>Authors did not provide justification for restricting to studies published in English</li> <li>A list of studies excluded after full-text review was not provided (although reasons for exclusion were)</li> <li>There was limited reporting of the characteristics of primary study participants (e.g., across PROGRESS-Plus criteria)<sup>41,42</sup></li> <li>Review authors did not report on sources of funding for the included primary studies</li> <li>Authors did not discuss the potential impact of risk of bias or the quality of the evidence on the results of the meta-analysis</li> </ul>
Aslam et	al. (2023) <sup>38</sup>
<ul> <li>The population, intervention, comparators, and outcomes of interest were clearly stated</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The authors did not provide a justification for only including RCTs</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>The review methods were established before conducting the review (a protocol was registered in PROSPERO)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The authors did not conduct a grey literature search</li> <li>It was unclear if study selection and quality assessment were</li> </ul>
	,

Strengths	Limitations
<ul> <li>Strengths</li> <li>The systematic search included multiple databases (PubMed, CINAHL, Embase, Scopus, Cochrane, Web of Science). Database searches were supplemented by reviewing the bibliographies of included articles and related SRs for additional eligible studies</li> <li>Key search terms and search restrictions were provided (e.g., studies published in any language up to April 21, 2022, were eligible)</li> <li>Data extraction was conducted in duplicate</li> <li>Review authors described the included studies in adequate detail</li> <li>The quality of included primary studies was assessed using a satisfactory technique (i.e., the Cochrane RoB 2 tool)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Limitations</li> <li>conducted in duplicate</li> <li>A list of studies excluded after full-text review was not provided (although reasons for exclusion were)</li> <li>There was limited reporting of the characteristics of primary study participants (e.g., across PROGRESS-Plus criteria)<sup>41,42</sup></li> <li>Review authors did not report on sources of funding for the included primary studies</li> <li>Authors did not discuss the potential impact of risk of bias or the quality of the evidence on the results of the meta-analysis</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Appropriate statistical methods were used for the meta- analysis</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Authors provided an explanation of the potential reasons for, and discussion of, the considerable statistical heterogeneity that was observed in the meta-analyses</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Publication bias was assessed using a funnel plot</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>The authors declared that they had no conflicts of interest, and no funding was received for this work</li> </ul>	

AMSTAR 2 = A MeaSurement Tool to Assess systematic Reviews 2; INAHTA = International Network of Agencies for Health Technology Assessment; PROSPERO = International Prospective Register of Systematic Reviews; RCT = randomized controlled trial; RoB = Risk of Bias; SR = systematic review.

# Table 7: Strengths and Limitations of the RCT Using the Downs and Black Checklist<sup>58</sup>

Strengths	Limitations		
Tiankanon e	et al. (2024) <sup>39</sup>		
<ul> <li>Reporting</li> <li>Authors clearly described the aim of the study, main outcomes, participant eligibility criteria, interventions, comparator, and main findings</li> <li>Participant characteristics (e.g., age, smoking status, BMI, family history of colorectal cancer) were reported</li> <li>For all outcomes, the authors reported simple outcome data, the unadjusted and adjusted mean difference between the groups, 95% CIs, and actual P values</li> <li>No participants were lost to follow-up</li> <li>Adverse events were reported</li> <li>External validity</li> <li>The study was conducted at 5 endoscopy referral centres, with care providers and settings that appeared to be representative of the care that most patients receive</li> <li>Internal validity – bias</li> <li>Authors conducted appropriate statistical analyses and sensitivity analyses</li> <li>Compliance with the intervention was reliable</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>External validity</li> <li>There was limited reporting of the characteristics of study participants (e.g., across PROGRESS-Plus criteria)<sup>41,42</sup></li> <li>Internal validity – bias</li> <li>Endoscopists (i.e., outcome assessors) were aware of the intervention each participant received and knew that their examination results were being recorded for the study. This may have influenced their performance during the colonoscopy and affected the study finding (i.e., the Hawthorne effect)</li> <li>Other</li> <li>The authors did not perform statistical testing to assess whether there were any significant differences between participants who underwent colonoscopy with Deep-GI and those with CAD EYE, which was the comparison of interest for addressing research question 2 of this review</li> </ul>		

Strengths	Limitations
Outcome measures were valid	
<ul> <li>Internal validity – confounding</li> <li>Participants in different intervention groups were recruited from the same population and over the same period</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Participants were randomized to intervention and comparator groups by computer-generated randomization</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Allocation assignment was concealed from the patients and health care staff using appropriate methods</li> </ul>	
Power	
<ul> <li>The authors conducted a sample size calculation and recruited an appropriate number of patients</li> </ul>	
Other	
<ul> <li>The authors declared that they had no potential conflicts of interest</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Sources of funding were disclosed and were unlikely to have influenced the findings of the study</li> </ul>	

BMI = body mass index; CI = confidence interval; RCT = randomized controlled trial.

# Table 8: Strengths and Limitations of Economic Evaluation Using the Drummond Checklist<sup>59</sup>

Strengths	Limitations		
Health Techno	ology Wales (2024) <sup>35</sup>		
<ul> <li>Study design</li> <li>The research question and its economic importance were clearly stated</li> <li>The screening strategies being compared were clearly described</li> <li>The viewpoint and form of economic analysis were clearly stated and justified</li> <li>Data collection</li> <li>The sources of effectiveness estimates, utility values, and treatment costs were provided</li> <li>The design and results of the effectiveness studies from which clinical inputs were drawn were provided</li> <li>The primary outcome measures for the economic evaluation were clearly stated</li> <li>Methods to value health states, utilities, and other benefits were stated</li> <li>Methods for the estimation of quantities and unit costs were described</li> <li>Currency and price data were recorded (2021/22 British pounds)</li> <li>The details of currency price adjustments for inflation were given</li> <li>The structure of the decision tree model was clearly described using figures</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Data collection</li> <li>Some QALY and cost inputs were sourced from unpublished data, and there was limited reporting on the methods used to derive these values.</li> <li>Other</li> <li>The findings of this UK-based study may not be generalizable to the Canadian health system.</li> <li>Study authors did not state their potential conflicts of interest</li> </ul>		

Strengths
<ul><li>Analysis and interpretation of results</li><li>The time horizon of costs and benefits was stated (lifetime)</li></ul>
<ul> <li>The discount rate for costs and benefits was stated and justified (3.5% per year)</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>The approach to sensitivity analyses was reported</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>The choice of variables for sensitivity analysis were justified</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Incremental analysis was reported</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Major outcomes were presented in disaggregated as well as aggregated form</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>The answer to the study question was given</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Conclusions follow from the data reported</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Conclusions were accompanied by appropriate caveats</li> </ul>
Other
<ul> <li>Sources of funding were disclosed (HTW is funded by Welsh Government)</li> </ul>

HTW = Health Technology Wales; QALY = quality-adjusted life-year; SR = systematic review.

# **Appendix 4: Main Study Findings**

Please note that this appendix has not been copy-edited.

# Table 9: Summary of Findings by Outcome — Adenoma Detection Rate<sup>a</sup>

	Evidence source, number of	Outcom	e result	Relative effect	
Citation	participants	Intervention group	Control group	(95% CI)	P value
	Al-assisted co	lonoscopy vs. conve	ntional colonoscopy		
Health Technology Wales (2024) <sup>35</sup>	SR with MA (36 RCTs); 27,870 participants	44.3%	37.1%	RR = 1.23 (1.16 to 1.29)	< 0.001
Lee et al. (2024) <sup>36</sup>	SR with MA (24 RCTs); 17,413 participants	39.3%	33.1%	RR = 1.24 (1.17 to 1.31)	< 0.001
Wei et al. (2024) <sup>37</sup>	SR with MA (12 NRSs); 11,655 participants	36.3%	35.8%	RR = 1.13 (1.01 to 1.28)	0.04
Aslam et al. (2023) <sup>38</sup>	SR with MA (11 RCTs); 6,856 participants	41.7%	35.3%	OR = 1.51 (1.15 to 1.99)	0.003
Deep-GI vs. CAD EYE					
Tiankanon et al. (2024) <sup>39</sup>	RCT; 800 participants	54.8%	50.0%	NR	NR

AI = artificial intelligence; CI = confidence interval; MA = meta-analysis; NR = not reported; NRS = nonrandomized study; OR = odds ratio; RCT = randomized controlled trial; RR = risk ratio; SR = systematic review; vs. = versus.

Note: There was overlap in the primary studies that were included in the SRs; the pooled estimates from separate reviews presented in this table thus contain some of the same data. Refer to <u>Appendix 5</u> for a citation matrix illustrating the degree of overlap.

<sup>a</sup>Defined as the percentage of patients who underwent colonoscopy and had 1 or more adenomas detected.

# Table 10: Summary of Findings by Outcome — Proximal Adenoma Detection Rate<sup>a</sup>

Evidence source (for \$		Outcom	e result	Relative effect		
Citation	number of participants	Intervention group	Control group	(95% CI)	P value	
Deep-GI vs. CAD EYE						
Tiankanon et al. (2024) <sup>39</sup>	RCT; 800 participants	38.8%	32.3%	NR	NR	

CI = confidence interval; NR = not reported; RCT = randomized controlled trial; SR = systematic review; vs. = versus. <sup>a</sup>Defined as the percentage of patients who underwent colonoscopy and had 1 or more proximal adenomas detected.

	Evidence source, number of	Outcom	e result	Relative effect (95% Cl)	
Citation	participants	Intervention group	Control group		P value
	Al-assisted co	olonoscopy vs. conve	ntional colonoscopy		
Health Technology Wales (2024) <sup>35</sup>	SR with MA (16 RCTs); 15,639 participants	13.3%	12.2%	RR = 1.06 (0.98 to 1.15)	0.134
Lee et al. (2024) <sup>36</sup>	SR with MA (9 RCTs); 6,906 participants	9.0%	8.1%	RR = 1.12 (0.96 to 1.30)	0.16
Deep-GI vs. CAD EYE					
Tiankanon et al. (2024) <sup>39</sup>	RCT; 800 participants	9.5%	10.3%	NR	NR

### Table 11: Summary of Findings by Outcome — Advanced Adenoma Detection Rate<sup>a</sup>

AI = artificial intelligence; CI = confidence interval; MA = meta-analysis; NR = not reported; RCT = randomized controlled trial; RR = risk ratio; SR = systematic review; vs. = versus.

Note: There was overlap in the primary studies that were included in the SRs; the pooled estimates from separate reviews presented in this table thus contain some of the same data. Refer to <u>Appendix 5</u> for a citation matrix illustrating the degree of overlap.

<sup>a</sup>Defined as the percentage of patients who underwent colonoscopy and had 1 or more advanced adenomas detected.

# Table 12: Summary of Findings by Outcome — Polyp Detection Rate<sup>a</sup>

	Evidence source, number of	Outcom	e result	Relative effect	P value	
Citation	participants	Intervention group	Control group	(95% CI)		
	AI-assisted colonoscopy vs. conventional colonoscopy					
Health Technology Wales (2024) <sup>35</sup>	SR with MA (30 RCTs); 24,073 participants	55.5%	47.7%	RR = 1.20 (1.14 to 1.27)	< 0.001	
Aslam et al. (2023) <sup>38</sup>	SR with MA (10 RCTs); 6,685 participants	55.0%	41.8%	OR = 1.89 (1.66 to 2.15)	< 0.00001	

AI = artificial intelligence; CI = confidence interval; MA = meta-analysis; OR = odds ratio; RCT = randomized controlled trial; RR = risk ratio; SR = systematic review; vs. = versus.

Note: There was overlap in the primary studies that were included in the SRs; the pooled estimates from separate reviews presented in this table thus contain some of the same data. Refer to <u>Appendix 5</u> for a citation matrix illustrating the degree of overlap.

<sup>a</sup>Defined as the percentage of patients who underwent colonoscopy and had 1 or more polyps detected.

	Evidence source, number of	Outcom	e result	Relative effect	
Citation	participants	Intervention group	Control group	(95% CI)	P value
	Al-assisted co	olonoscopy vs. conve	ntional colonoscopy		
Health Technology Wales (2024) <sup>35</sup>	SR with MA (19 RCTs); 18,050 participants	11.1%	9.1%	RR = 1.21 (1.06 to 1.38)	0.006
Lee et al. (2024) <sup>36</sup>	SR with MA (12 RCTs); 10,045 participants	5.5%	5.7%	RR = 0.95 (0.81 to 1.11)	0.51
		Deep-GI vs. CAD E	ΞΥΕ		
Tiankanon et al. (2024) <sup>39</sup>	RCT; 800 participants	3.0%	2.3%	NR	NR

### Table 13: Summary of Findings by Outcome — Sessile Serrated Lesion Detection Rate<sup>a</sup>

AI = artificial intelligence; CI = confidence interval; MA = meta-analysis; NR = not reported; RCT = randomized controlled trial; RR = risk ratio; SR = systematic review; vs. = versus.

Note: There was overlap in the primary studies that were included in the SRs; the pooled estimates from separate reviews presented in this table thus contain some of the same data. Refer to <u>Appendix 5</u> for a citation matrix illustrating the degree of overlap.

<sup>a</sup>Defined as the percentage of patients who underwent colonoscopy and had 1 or more sessile serrated lesions detected.

# Table 14: Summary of Findings by Outcome — Carcinoma Detection Rate<sup>a</sup>

	Evidence source, number of	Outcome	e result	Relative effect	
Citation	participants	Intervention group	Control group	(95% CI)	P value
	Al-assisted co	lonoscopy vs. conver	ntional colonoscopy		
Health Technology Wales (2024) <sup>35</sup>	1 RCT; Engelke et al. (2023); 232 participants	2.5%	0.9%	RR = 2.70 (0.29 to 25.62)	> 0.05
	1 RCT; Wang et al. (2023); 1,261 participants	0%	0%	NR	NR
	1 RCT; Yamaguchi et al. (2024); 321 participants	0.9%	2.5%	RR = 0.35 (0.04 to 3.30)	0.638
	1 RCT; Hüneburg et al. (2023); 96 participants	4.0%	0%	RR = 0.35 (0.04 to 3.30)	0.52
	1 RCT; Wang et al. (2019); 1,058 participants	0%	0%	NR	NR
	1 RCT; Repici et al. (2020); 685 participants	2.9%	0.9%	RR = 3.36 (0.93 to 12.11)	0.067
	1 RCT; Wang et al. (2020b); 962 participants	0%	0%	NR	NR
	1 RCT; Repici et al. (2022); 660 participants	0%	0.9%	NR	0.247
	1 RCT; Liu et al. (2020a); 790 participants	0%	0%	NR	NR

	Evidence source, number of		e result	Relative effect	
Citation	participants	Intervention group	Control group	(95% CI)	P value
	1 RCT; Gimeno-García et al. (2023); 312 participants	1.9%	2.5%	RR = 0.76 (0.06 to 1.22)	0.99
	1 RCT; Xu et al. (2023); 2,527 participants		0.6%	RR = 0.26 (0.06 to 1.22)	0.109
	1 RCT; Nakashima et al. (2023); 415 participants		0%	NR	NR
	1 RCT; Mangas-Sanjuan et al. (2023); 3,213 participants	3.7%	3.2%	RR = 1.15 (0.80 to 1.66)	0.46

AI = artificial intelligence; CI = confidence interval; MA = meta-analysis; NR = not reported; RCT = randomized controlled trial; RR = risk ratio; SR = systematic review; vs. = versus.

<sup>a</sup>Defined as the percentage of patients who underwent colonoscopy and had 1 or more carcinomas detected.

# Table 15: Summary of Findings by Outcome — Adenomas Per Colonoscopy

	Evidence source, number of	Outcom	Outcome result		
Citation	participants	Intervention group	Control group	(95% CI)	P value
	Al-assisted co	lonoscopy vs. conve	ntional colonoscopy		
Lee et al.	SR with MA (23 RCTs);	NR	NR	MD = 0.19	< 0.001
(2024) <sup>36</sup>	17,013 participants			(0.15 to 0.24); favours Al group	
Wei et al.	SR with MA (6 NRSs); NR	NR	NR	RR = 1.12	0.18
(2024)37				(0.95 to 1.33)	
		Deep-GI vs. CAD E	EYE		
Tiankanon et	RCT; 800 participants	1.16	1.04	NR	NR
al. (2024) <sup>39</sup>		(SD = 1.63)	(SD = 1.51)		

AI = artificial intelligence; CI = confidence interval; MA = meta-analysis; MD = mean difference; NR = not reported; NRS = nonrandomized study; RCT = randomized controlled trial; RR = rate ratio; SD = standard deviation; SR = systematic review; vs. = versus.

# Table 16: Summary of Findings by Outcome — Proximal Adenomas Per Colonoscopy

	Evidence source, number of	Outcom	Outcome result				
Citation	participants	Intervention group	Control group	(95% CI)	P value		
	Deep-GI vs. CAD EYE						
Tiankanon et al. (2024) <sup>39</sup>	RCT; 800 participants	0.64 (SD = 1.06)	0.53 (SD = 1.03)	NR	NR		

CI = confidence interval; NR = not reported; RCT = randomized controlled trial; vs. = versus.

# Table 17: Summary of Findings by Outcome — Advanced Adenomas Per Colonoscopy

	Evidence source, number of	Outcom	e result	Relative effect				
Citation	participants	Intervention group	Control group	(95% CI)	P value			
	Al-assisted colonoscopy vs. conventional colonoscopy							
Lee et al. (2024) <sup>36</sup>	ee et al.SR with MA (13 RCTs);2024)369,217 participants		NR NR		0.63			
		Deep-GI vs. CAD E	ΞΥΕ					
Tiankanon et al. (2024) <sup>39</sup>	RCT; 800 participants	0.10 (SD = 0.34)	0.12 (SD = 0.36)	NR	NR			

AI = artificial intelligence; CI = confidence interval; MA = meta-analysis; MD = mean difference; NR = not reported; RCT = randomized controlled trial; SD = standard deviation; SR = systematic review; vs. = versus.

# Table 18: Summary of Findings by Outcome — Sessile Serrated Lesions Per Colonoscopy

Evidence source, number of		Outcom	e result	Relative effect				
Citation	participants	Intervention group	Control group	(95% CI)	P value			
	Al-assisted colonoscopy vs. conventional colonoscopy							
Lee et al. (2024) <sup>36</sup>	SR with MA (16 RCTs); 11,740 participants	NR	NR	MD = 0.01 (-0.01 to 0.03)	0.19			

AI = artificial intelligence; CI = confidence interval; MA = meta-analysis; MD = mean difference; NR = not reported; RCT = randomized controlled trial; SR = systematic review; vs. = versus.

# Table 19: Summary of Findings by Outcome — Adenoma Miss Rate<sup>a</sup>

	Evidence source, number of	Outcom	e result	Relative effect	
Citation	participants	Intervention group	Control group	(95% CI)	P value
	Al-assisted co	olonoscopy vs. conve	ntional colonoscopy		
Health Technology Wales (2024) <sup>35</sup>	SR with MA (6 RCTs); 2,012 participants	15.3%	34.1%	RR = 0.46 (0.36 to 0.58)	0.004
Lee et al. (2024) <sup>36</sup>	SR with MA (24 RCTs); NR	15.1%	34.8%	RR = 0.44 (0.35 to 0.56)	< 0.00001

AI = artificial intelligence; CI = confidence interval; MA = meta-analysis; NR = not reported; RCT = randomized controlled trial; RR = risk ratio; SR = systematic review; vs. = versus.

Note: There was overlap in the primary studies that were included in the SRs; the pooled estimates from separate reviews presented in this table thus contain some of the same data. Refer to <u>Appendix 5</u> for a citation matrix illustrating the degree of overlap.

<sup>a</sup>Adenoma miss rates are obtained from tandem colonoscopy studies (i.e., in which patients undergo 2 consecutive colonoscopies). They are defined as the number of additional adenomas detected during the second colonoscopy divided by the total number of adenomas detected during both colonoscopies.

## Table 20: Summary of Findings by Outcome — Advanced Adenoma Miss Rate<sup>a</sup>

	Evidence source, number of	Outcom	e result	Relative effect			
Citation	participants	Intervention group	Control group	(95% CI)	P value		
Al-assisted colonoscopy vs. conventional colonoscopy							
Health Technology Wales (2024) <sup>35</sup>	SR with MA (3 RCTs); 938 participants	12%	40%	OR = 1.07 (0.17 to 6.70)	0.45		

AI = artificial intelligence; CI = confidence interval; MA = meta-analysis; OR = odds ratio; RCT = randomized controlled trial; SR = systematic review; vs. = versus. <sup>a</sup>Advanced adenoma miss rates are obtained from tandem colonoscopy studies (i.e., in which patients undergo 2 consecutive colonoscopies). They are defined as the number of additional advanced adenomas detected during the second colonoscopy divided by the total number of advanced adenomas detected during both colonoscopies.

# Table 21: Summary of Findings by Outcome — Sessile Serrated Lesion Miss Rate<sup>a</sup>

	Evidence source, number of	Outcome result		Relative effect	
Citation	participants	Intervention group	Control group	(95% CI)	P value
	Al-assisted co	olonoscopy vs. conve	ntional colonoscopy		
Health Technology Wales (2024) <sup>35</sup>	SR with MA (4 RCTs); 1,168 participants	9%	16%	OR = 0.22 (0.08 to 0.65)	0.01

AI = artificial intelligence; CI = confidence interval; MA = meta-analysis; NR = not reported; OR = odds ratio; RCT = randomized controlled trial; SR = systematic review; vs. = versus.

<sup>a</sup>Sessile serrated lesion miss rates are obtained from tandem colonoscopy studies (i.e., in which patients undergo 2 consecutive colonoscopies). They are defined as the number of additional sessile serrated lesions detected during the second colonoscopy divided by the total number of sessile serrated lesions detected during both colonoscopies.

# Table 22: Summary of Findings by Outcome — Withdrawal Times

			Outcome	result		
Citation	Outcomo	Evidence source, number	Intervention	Control group	Relative effect	Byoluo
Citation	Outcome		group	Control group	(95% CI)	Pvalue
	1	Al-assisted colonoscopy	vs. conventional col	onoscopy		
Health Technology Wales (2024) <sup>35</sup>	Withdrawal time excluding biopsy, minutes (mean [SD] or median [IQR])	SR with MA (18 RCTs); Lou et al. (2023); 13,740 participants	NR	NR	MD = 0.33 (0.09 to 0.57); longer in Al group	0.012
		1 RCT; Desai et al. (2024); 1,112 participants	11.3 (SD = 4.6)	10.8 (SD = 4.8)	NR	0.11
		1 RCT; Lau et al. (2024); 766 participants	14.9 (SD = 8.1)	13.7 (SD = 8.7)	NR	0.048
		1 RCT; Lui et al. (2024); 452 participants	7.5 (SD = 1.7)	7.5 (SD = 1.9)	NR	NR
		1 RCT; Maas et al. (2024); 916 participants	6.5 (IQR = 4.0)	6.5 (IQR = 4.1)	NR	0.86

			Outcome	result		
0.4.4.1.4.4		Evidence source, number	Intervention		Relative effect	
Citation	Outcome	of participants	group	Control group	(95% CI)	P value
		1 RCT; Mangas-Sanjuan et al. (2023); 3,213 participants	10.6 (SD = 5.3)	9.8 (SD = 4.3)	NR	NR
		1 RCT; Repici et al. (2022); 660 participants	8.2 (SD = 1.6)	8.0 (SD = 0.2)	NR	0.176
		1 RCT; Rondonotti et al. (2022); 800 participants	9.0 (IQR, 8.0 to 11.0)	9.0 (IQR, 7.6 to 10.0)	NR	0.40
		1 RCT; Schöler et al. (2024); 240 participants	13.9 (SD = 7.3)	12.3 (SD = 9.4)	NR	0.98
		1 RCT; Tiankanon et al. (2024); 1,200 participants	Al Group 1: 10.0 (IQR, 7.0 to 12.0) Al Group 2: 10.0 (IQR, 7.0 to 12.0)	9.0 (IQR, 7.0 to 11.0)	NR; longer in both Al groups	NR
		1 RCT; Yao et al. (2023); 456 participants	7.4 (SD = 3.4)	7.3 (SD = 2.9)	NR	NR
	Withdrawal time including biopsy, minutes (mean [SD] or median [IQR])	SR with MA (4 RCTs); Huang et al. (2022); 3,836 participants	NR	NR	MD = 0.35 (0.15 to 0.55); longer in Al group	0.02
		1 RCT; Glissen Brown et al. (2022); 223 participants	9.5 (IQR, 7.8 to 13.8)	8.5 (IQR, 7.0 to 11.0)	NR	0.01
		1 RCT; Karsenti et al. (2023); 2,015 participants	8.0 (IQR, 6.0 to 10.8)	7.3 (IQR, 6.0 to 9.7)	NR	0.0013
		1 RCT; Schöler et al. (2024); 240 participants	21.4 (SD = 13.5)	17.4 (SD = 13.1)	NR	0.03
		1 RCT; Mangas-Sanjuan et al. (2023); 3,213 participants	16.9 (SD = 10.3)	15.7 (SD = 9.4)	NR	< 0.05
Lee et al. (2024) <sup>36</sup>	Withdrawal time, minutes (mean [SD])ª	SR with MA (18 RCTs); 14,783 participants	NR	NR	MD = 0.34 (0.11 to 0.56); longer in Al group	0.004
Aslam et al. (2023) <sup>38</sup>	Withdrawal time, minutes (mean [SD])ª	SR with MA (8 RCTs); 5,773 participants	6.94 (SD = NR)	6.57 (SD = NR)	SMD = 0.25 (0.2 to 0.31)	< 0.0001

			Outcome result			
Citation	Outcome	Evidence source, number of participants	Intervention group	Control group	Relative effect (95% Cl)	P value
		Deep-GI	vs. CAD EYE			
Tiankanon et al. (2024) <sup>39</sup>	Withdrawal time excluding the time spent on fecal debris irrigation and polypectomy, minutes (median [IQR])	RCT; 800 participants	10 (IQR, 7 to 12)	10 (IQR, 7 to 12)	NR	NR

AI = artificial intelligence; CI = confidence interval; IQR = interquartile range; MA = meta-analysis; MD = mean difference; NR = not reported; RCT = randomized controlled trial; SD = standard deviation; SMD = standardized mean difference; SR = systematic review; vs. = versus.

Note: There was overlap in the primary studies that were included in the SRs; the pooled estimates from separate reviews presented in this table thus contain some of the same data. Refer to <u>Appendix 5</u> for a citation matrix illustrating the degree of overlap.

<sup>a</sup>The authors did not specify whether the reported withdrawal times included biopsy.

### Table 23: Summary of Findings by Outcome — Procedure Time

	Outcome result		ne result			
Citation	Outcome	Evidence source, number of participants	Intervention group	Control group	Relative effect (95% Cl)	P value
		Al-assisted colonoscopy	vs. conventional co	olonoscopy		
Health Technology Wales (2024) <sup>35</sup>	Procedure time, minutes (mean [SD] or median [IQR])	1 RCT; Ahmad et al. (2023); 614 participants	24.9 (IQR, 19.7 to 32.5)	24.3 (IQR, 18.5 to 32.0)	NR	0.18
		1 RCT; Hüneburg et al. (2023); 96 participants	22.0 (SD = 5.3)	21.1 (SD = 5.8)	NR	0.425
		1 RCT; Liu et al. (2020a); 790 participants	13.37 (SD = 5.15)	13.01 (SD = 4.64)	NR	0.315
		1 RCT; Shaukat et al. (2022); 1,359 participants	15.82 (SD = 5.1)	15.41 (SD = 5.1)	NR	0.41
		1 RCT; Wang et al. (2019); 1,058 participants	12.52 (SD = 4.38)	12.10 (SD = 4.08)	NR	0.11
		1 RCT; Wei et al. (2023); 769 participants	20.8 (SD = 8.1)	19.1 (SD = 6.7)	NR	0.00013

AI = artificial intelligence; CI = confidence interval; IQR = interquartile range; NR = not reported; RCT = randomized controlled trial; SD = standard deviation; vs. = versus.

			Outcom	ne result		
Citation	Outcomo	Evidence source, number	Intervention	Control group	Relative effect	Byoluo
Citation	Outcome		group	Control group	(95% CI)	Pvalue
	1	AI-assisted colonoscopy	vs. conventional c	olonoscopy	1	
Health Technology Wales (2024) <sup>35</sup>	Polypectomies of non- neoplastic lesions per colonoscopy	SR with MA (18 RCTs); Lou et al. (2023); NR	NR	NR	IRR = 1.63 (1.39 to 1.93); favours conventional group	< 0.001
	(mean)	SR with MA (12 RCTs); Hassan et al. (2023b); 12,943 participants	0.52 (95% CI, 0.41 to 0.63)	0.34 (95% CI, 0.23 to 0.46)	MD = 0.18 (0.11 to 0.26)	< 0.001
		1 RCT; Lau et al. (2024); 766 participants	1.17 (SD = 1.65)	0.61 (SD = 1.13)	FC = 1.92 (1.54 to 2.41)	< 0.001
	Non-neoplastic lesion resection rate	SR with MA (7 RCTs); Lou et al. (2023); NR	NR	NR	RR = 1.16 (0.98 to 1.39)	0.079
		1 RCT; Lau et al. (2024); 766 participants	52.1%	35.0%	RR = 1.70 (1.37 to 2.11)	0.001
	Adverse event rate <sup>ª</sup>	1 RCT; Engelke et al. (2023); 232 participants	0.8%	4.5%	NR	> 0.05
		1 RCT; Karsenti et al. (2023); 2,015 participants	0.1%	0.0%	NR	NR
		1 RCT; Wallace et al. (2022); 230 participants	5.0%	3.9%	NR	NR
		1 RCT; Zhang et al. (2023); 1,293 participants	0.2%	0.0%	NR	NR
	Deep-GI vs. CAD EYE					
Tiankanon et al. (2024) <sup>39</sup>	Procedural adverse events (mean)	RCT; 800 participants	0	0	NR	NR

## Table 24: Summary of Findings by Outcome — Adverse Events

AI = artificial intelligence; CI = confidence interval; FC = fold change; IRR = incident rate ratios; MA = meta-analysis; MD = mean difference; NR = not reported; RCT = randomized controlled trial; RR = risk ratio; SD = standard deviation; SR = systematic review; vs. = versus. <sup>a</sup>The authors did not specify which adverse events were included or how they were defined.

# Table 25: Summary of Main Findings of Included Economic Evaluation

Citation	Main study findings	Authors' conclusion
Health Technology Wales (2024) <sup>35</sup>	<ul> <li>Base case results</li> <li>Incremental cost per person (AI-assisted vs. conventional colonoscopy):</li> <li>Intervention: £12</li> <li>Additional polypectomies due to improved adenoma detection rate: £13</li> <li>Avoidance of delays to diagnosis and progression of undetected low-risk adenoma: -£39</li> </ul>	"Overall costs and QALYs were similar for the strategies modelled. However, computer- aided detection was estimated to provide very small QALY gains at a slightly higher cost than the comparator. The ICER

Citation	Main study findings	Authors' conclusion
	<ul> <li>Total: £3</li> <li>Incremental QALYs per person (Al-assisted vs. conventional colonoscopy):</li> <li>Avoidance of delays to diagnosis and progression of undetected low-risk adenoma: 0.001</li> <li>Total: 0.001</li> <li>ICER (incremental costs/incremental QALYs):</li> <li>£4,197 per QALY</li> <li>Probability of cost-effectiveness: In probabilistic sensitivity analyses, Al-assisted colonoscopy was cost-effective at a willingness-to-pay threshold of £20,000 per QALY in 83% of estimates</li> </ul>	of £4,197 per QALY gained indicates that computer-aided detection may be cost effective compared with standard colonoscopy. Computer-aided detection was cost effective in most deterministic sensitivity analyses, but the conclusion did change in a few scenarios tested (p. 39)." <sup>35</sup>
	The authors used deterministic sensitivity analyses to assess the impact of alternative assumptions and inputs on the findings of the analyses. The modelled scenarios included changes to the life span of AI-assisted polyp detection systems, disease prevalence, adenoma detection rates, and the cost of AI-assisted polyp detection systems. The results of these deterministic sensitivity analyses are available in the publication <sup>35</sup>	

AI = artificial intelligence; ICER = incremental cost-effectiveness ratio; QALY = quality-adjusted life-year; vs. = versus.

# Table 26: Summary of Main Findings of Economic Evaluations Included in the SR by Health Technology Wales (2024)<sup>35</sup>

Primary study	Main study findings			
Barkun et al. (2023) as	Base case results			
reported in Health Technology Wales (2024) <sup>35</sup>	Cost per person: • Al-assisted colonoscopy: CA\$2,991			
	<ul> <li>Conventional colonoscopy: CA\$3,005</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>Al-assisted colonoscopy saves CA\$14</li> </ul>			
	QALYs: • Al-assisted colonoscopy: 17.137			
	Conventional colonoscopy: 17.113			
	Incremental: 0.024			
	Al-assisted colonoscopy was less costly and more effective than conventional colonoscopy (i.e., dominant)			
	<b>Probability of cost-effectiveness</b> : In probabilistic sensitivity analyses, AI-assisted colonoscopy was cost-effective at a willingness-to-pay threshold of CA\$50,000 per QALY in 63% of estimates			
Hassan et al. (2023a) as	Base case results			
reported in Health Technology	Cost per person:			
Wales (2024) <sup>35</sup>	<ul> <li>Al-assisted colonoscopy: €1,339</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>Conventional colonoscopy: €1,354</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>Al-assisted colonoscopy saves €14</li> </ul>			
	QALYs: • AI-assisted colonoscopy: NR			
	Conventional colonoscopy: NR			
	Incremental: 0.027			
	Al-assisted colonoscopy was less costly and more effective than conventional colonoscopy (i.e.,			

Primary study	Main study findings				
	dominant)				
	<b>Probability of cost-effectiveness</b> : In probabilistic sensitivity analyses, AI-assisted colonoscopy was cost-effective at willingness-to-pay thresholds of around €3,000 per QALY in almost 80% of estimates				
Sekiguchi et al. (2023) as	Base case results				
reported in Health Technology Wales (2024) <sup>35</sup>	Cost per person: • AI-assisted colonoscopy: ¥113,348 to ¥118,045				
	<ul> <li>Conventional colonoscopy: ¥112,602</li> </ul>				
	<ul> <li>AI-assisted colonoscopy saves between ¥747 and ¥5,443</li> </ul>				
	QALYs: • AI-assisted colonoscopy: 20.40977				
	Conventional colonoscopy: 20.40883				
	Incremental: 0.00094				
	ICER (incremental costs/incremental QALYs): • ¥796,328 to ¥5,806,263 per QALY				
	<b>Probability of cost-effectiveness</b> : In probabilistic sensitivity analyses, AI-assisted colonoscopy was cost-effective at willingness-to-pay thresholds of ¥5 million per QALY in 51% of estimates (using an incremental cost of ¥4,000 per colonoscopy)				
Thiruvengadam et al. (2023) as	Base case results				
reported in Health Technology Wales (2024) <sup>35</sup>	Cost per person: • AI-assisted colonoscopy: US\$5,907				
	<ul> <li>Conventional colonoscopy: US\$6,050</li> </ul>				
	<ul> <li>Al-assisted colonoscopy saves US\$143</li> </ul>				
	QALYs: • AI-assisted colonoscopy: 21.73				
	Conventional colonoscopy: 21.73				
	Incremental: 0.01				
	Al-assisted colonoscopy was less costly and more effective than conventional colonoscopy (i.e., dominant)				
	<b>Probability of cost-effectiveness</b> : In probabilistic sensitivity analyses, AI-assisted colonoscopy was cost-effective at a willingness-to-pay threshold of US\$50,000 per QALY in 79% of estimates				
Areia et al. (2022) as reported	Base case results				
in Health Technology Wales (2024) <sup>35</sup>	Cost per person: • AI-assisted colonoscopy: US\$3,343				
	Conventional colonoscopy: US\$3,400				
	<ul> <li>AI-assisted colonoscopy saves US\$57</li> </ul>				
	Colorectal cancer cases per 100,000 people: • Al-assisted colonoscopy: 3,049 (3.0%)				
	<ul> <li>Conventional colonoscopy: 3,327 (3.3%)</li> </ul>				
	<ul> <li>Al-assisted colonoscopy avoids 278 cases</li> </ul>				
	Colorectal cancer deaths per 100,000 people: • Al-assisted colonoscopy: 1,142 (1.1%)				
	<ul> <li>Conventional colonoscopy: 1,227 (1.2%)</li> </ul>				
	<ul> <li>Al-assisted colonoscopy avoids 85 deaths</li> </ul>				

Primary study	Main study findings
	Al-assisted colonoscopy was less costly and more effective than conventional colonoscopy (i.e., dominant)
	<b>Probability of cost-effectiveness</b> : In probabilistic sensitivity analyses, AI-assisted colonoscopy was cost-effective at a willingness-to-pay threshold of US\$50,000 per QALY in 90% of estimates

AI = artificial intelligence; ICER = incremental cost-effectiveness ratio; FIT = fecal immunochemical test; QALY = quality-adjusted life-year; SR = systematic review.

# **Appendix 5: Overlap Between Included SRs**

Please note that this appendix has not been copy-edited.

# Table 27: Overlap in Relevant Primary Studies Between Included SRs

	Health			
Primary study citation	Technology Wales (2024) <sup>35</sup>	Lee et al. (2024) <sup>36</sup>	Wei et al. (2024) <sup>37</sup>	Aslam et al. (2023) <sup>38</sup>
Agazzi et al. United Eur Gastroenterol J. 2021;813-814.	—	_	Yes	_
Ahmad et al. Endoscopy. 2023;55(4):313-319.	Yes	Yes	_	_
Ahmad et al. Gut. 2021;70:A42.		_	Yes	—
Aniwan et al. Gastrointest Endosc. 2023;97(3):507-516.	Yes	Yes	_	_
Areia et al. Lancet Digit Health. 2022;4(6):e436-e444.	Yes	_		
Barkun et al. J Can Assoc Gastroenterol. 2023;6(3):97-105.	Yes	—	_	
Desai et al. Am J Gastroenterol. 2024;119(7):1383-1391.	Yes	—		
Engelke et al. Scand J Gastroenterol. 2023;58(10):1194-1199.	Yes	—	—	—
Glissen Brown et al. Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2022;20(7):1499-1507.e4.	Yes	Yes	—	_
Gimeno-García et al. Gastrointest Endosc. 2023;97(3):528-536. e1.	Yes	Yes	—	_
Gong et al. Lancet Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2020;5(4):352-361.	Yes	Yes		Yes
Hassan et al. Endosc Int Open. 2023;11(11):E1046-E1055.	Yes	—		_
Hüneburg et al. United European Gastroenterol J. 2023;11(1):60- 68.	Yes	—	—	—
Ishiyama et al. Gastrointest Endosc. 2022;95(1):155-163.		_	Yes	_
Kamba et al. J Gastroenterol. 2021;56(8):746-757.	Yes	Yes		Yes
Karsenti et al. Lancet Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2023;8(8):726-734.	Yes	—	—	—
Koh et al. Surg Endosc. 2022;37(1):165-171.	—	—	Yes	—
Ladabaum et al. Gastroenterology. 2023;164(3):481-483.e6.	—	—	Yes	—
Lau et al. Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2024;22(3):630-641.e4.	Yes	—	—	_
Levy et al. Am J Gastroenterol. 2022;117(11):1871-1873.	—	—	Yes	—
Liu et al. Saudi J Gastroenterol. 2019;26(1):13-19.	Yes	Yes	—	Yes
Liu et al. Therap Adv Gastroenterol. 2020;13:1756284820979165.	Yes	Yes	—	—
Lui et al. Am J Gastroenterol. 2024;119(7):1318-1325.	Yes	—	—	—
Lui et al. Gastrointest Endosc. 2023;97:325-334.e1.	—	Yes	—	—
Luo et al. J Gastrointest Surg. 2021;25(8):2011-2018.	Yes		_	_
Maas et al. Lancet Digit Health. 2024;6(3):e157-e165.	Yes	—	—	—
Mangas-Sanjuan et al. Ann Intern Med. 2023;176(9):1145-1152.	Yes	—	_	—

	Health	Les stel		A clam at al
Primary study citation	Wales (2024) <sup>35</sup>	Lee et al. (2024) <sup>36</sup>	(2024) <sup>37</sup>	(2023) <sup>38</sup>
Misawa et al. Gastroenterology. 2018;154(8):2027-2029.e3.	—	_	—	Yes
Mori et al. Gastrointest Endosc. 2020;92(4):905-911.e1.	Yes	_	—	_
Nakashima et al. Digestion. 2023;104(3):193-201.	Yes	Yes	_	_
Nehme et al. Gastrointest Endosc. 2023;98(1):100-109.e6.	_	_	Yes	_
Quan et al. Sci Rep. 2022;12(1):6598.	—	_	Yes	_
Repici et al. Gastroenterology. 2020;159(2):512-520.e7.	Yes	Yes	_	Yes
Repici et al. Gut. 2022;71(4):757-765.	Yes	Yes	_	_
Richter et al. Dig Dis. 2023;41(4):615-619.	—	_	Yes	_
Rondonotti et al. Endoscopy. 2022;54(12):1171-1179.	Yes	Yes	_	_
Schauer et al. N Z Med J. 2022 Sep 2;135(1561):22-30.	—	_	Yes	_
Schöler et al. BMJ Open Gastroenterol. 2024;11(1):e001247.	Yes	_	_	_
Sekiguchi et al. Dig Endosc. 2023;35(7):891-899.	Yes	_	_	_
Shaukat et al. Endosc Int Open. 2021;9(2):E263-E270.	—	_	Yes	_
Shaukat et al. Gastroenterology. 2022;163(3):732-741.	Yes	Yes	_	_
Shen et al. J Dig Dis. 2021;22(5):256-262.	Yes	_	_	
Su et al. Gastrointest Endosc. 2020;91(2):415-424.e4.	Yes	Yes	_	Yes
Thiruvengadam et al. Gastroenterology. 2023;164(6):906-920.	Yes	_	_	_
Tiankanon et al. Endoscopy. 2024;56(4):273-282.	Yes	_	_	_
Vilkoite et al. Diagnostics (Basel). 2023;13(4):701.	Yes	Yes	_	_
Wallace et al. Gastroenterology. 2022;163(1):295-304.e5.	Yes	Yes	_	_
Wang et al. Gastroenterol Rep (Oxf). 2023:11:goac081.	Yes	Yes	_	
Wang et al. Gastroenterology. 2020;159(4):1252-1261.e5.	Yes	Yes	_	Yes
Wang et al. Gut. 2019;68(10):1813-1819.	Yes	Yes	_	Yes
Wang et al. Lancet Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2020;5(4):343-351.	Yes	Yes	_	Yes
Wei et al. Am J Gastroenterol. 2023;118(10):1841-1847.	Yes	Yes	_	_
Wong et al. Surg Pract. 2022;26(2):115-119.	—	_	Yes	_
Xu et al. Cancer Med. 2021;10(20):7184-7193.	Yes	_	_	_
Xu et al. Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2023;21(2):337-346.e3.	Yes	Yes		_
Yamaguchi et al. Dig Endosc. 2024;36(1):40-48.	Yes	Yes		
Yao et al. Endoscopy. 2022;54(8):757-768.	Yes	Yes	_	Yes
Yao et al. Gastrointest Endosc. 2024;99(1):91-99.e9.	Yes	_	—	
Zhang et al. Front Med (Lausanne). 2024;10:1341259.	Yes	_		
Zippelius et al. Endoscopy. 2022;54(5):465-472.	_	_		Yes

SR = systematic review.

# **Appendix 6: References of Potential Interest**

Please note that this appendix has not been copy-edited.

#### Systematic Reviews

Alternative Intervention: Computer-Aided Diagnosis for Colorectal Polyps

- Hassan C, Misawa M, Rizkala T, et al. Computer-Aided Diagnosis for Leaving Colorectal Polyps In Situ: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis. *Ann Intern Med*. 2024;177(7):919-928. PubMed: PM38768453.
- Hassan C, Rizkala T, Mori Y, et al. Computer-aided diagnosis for the resect-and-discard strategy for colorectal polyps: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Lancet Gastroenterol Hepatol.* 2024;17:17. PubMed: PM39303733.



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