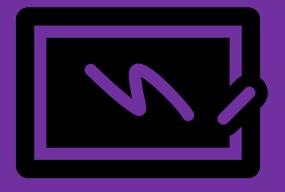
# Surgical Treatment of Colon and Rectal Cancer in the 2020s

Matthew Crapko, M.D., F.A.C.S., F.A.S.C.R.S.
Western Surgical Group, Reno NV
September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019





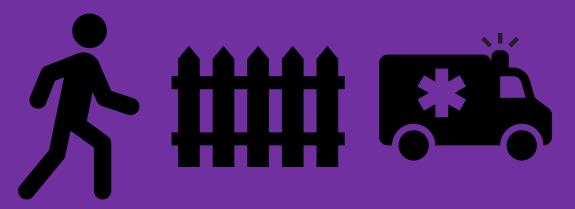
## Presentation Goals

- Outline the major treatment approaches for Colon and Rectal Cancer
- Identify key quality and outcome measures in Colon and Rectal Cancer treatment
- Discuss future changes and evolutions in the surgical treatment of cancer over the next decade

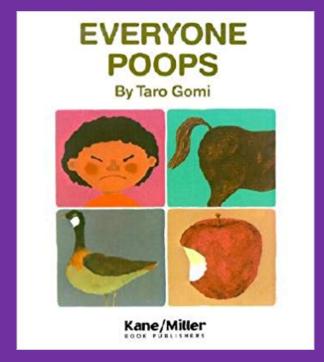
## Colon and Rectal Cancer- a common problem

- Colorectal Cancer remains the 3<sup>rd</sup> most common malignancy in men and women; and the 3<sup>rd</sup> most common cause of cancer death in men and women
- Estimated ~100,00 colon cancer cases and ~40,000 rectal cancer cases per year.
- Lifetime risk is 4.6% in men, 4.2% in women (about 1/23)
- 2016: ~1.5 million survivors of CRC alive in the US
  - Some cancer free, some with ongoing treatment/surveillance
- While aggressive screening is effective and preferred, this disease is still a frequently encountered problem.
  - Colonoscopy
  - CT Colonography
  - Flex-Sig
  - Barium enema
  - Fecal immunochemical test (FIT), Stool DNA, Fecal Occult Blood Test

## Barriers to Treatment/Potential Solutions



- Ewwww.... Gross
  - Take away the Stigma with straightforward talk
- Screening Hassle
  - Early stage cancer is curable
- Week in the Hospital
  - Not anymore
- Colostomy Bag
  - Uncommon, and manageable, outcome



# Colon and Rectal Cancer Staging

#### **TUMOR**

T1- Submucosa

T2- Invades Into Muscularis Propria

T3- Invades Through Muscularis Propria

T4- Penetrates to the visceral peritoneum

T4a- Surface of visceral peritoneum

T4b- Invades other organs

• Stage I: T1 or T2

• Stage II: T3 or T4

#### **NODES**

N1- 1-3 regional nodes or deposits

N1a- 1 node

N2a- 2-3 nodes

N1 c- Tumor deposits

N2-4+ regional nodes

Ns2a- 4-6 nodes

N2b- 7+ nodes

Stage III: Any N

#### **METASTASIS**

M1- any Metastasis

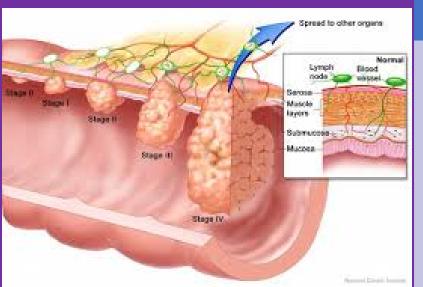
M1a- one organ metastasis

M1b- more than one organ metastasis

Stage IV: Any M

## Treatment of Colon and Rectal Cancer: Overview Colon

- Colon Cancer
  - Accurate Staging with complete Endoscopy; CT Chest/Abdomen/Pelvis; CEA Level
  - Surgery Remains the Mainstay of Treatment
  - Chemotherapy for advanced Disease



### Stage I

- •T1 or T2 (confined to the submucosa or muscularis propria)
- •Surgical Resection of Disease
- •Follow up Surveillance
- 5 year Survival 90%

### Stage II/III

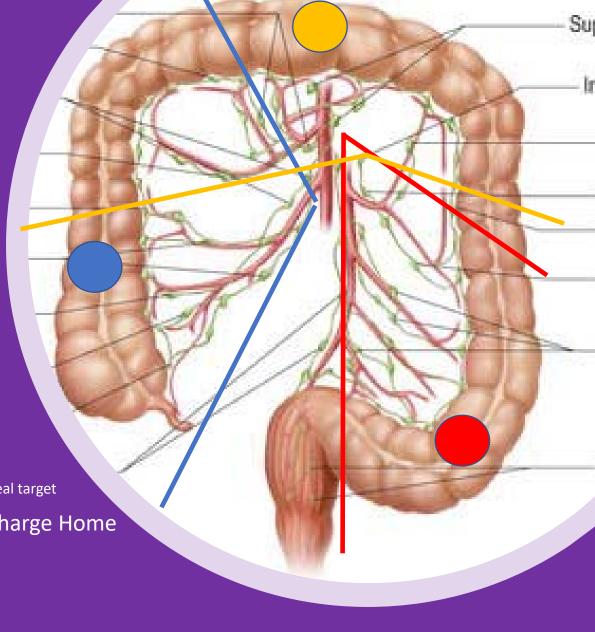
- •T3 or T4 or N1/N2 (through the muscularis propria or involving lymph nodes)
- Surgical Resection of Primary Disease
- Chemotherapy depending on results, indicated for stage III, debatable for stage II
- •Follow up Surveillance
- 5 year Survival 71%\*, but...
- 52-89% based on specific staging

#### Stage IV

- Any Metastatic Disease
- Chemotherapy
- Surgical Resection of Primary site +/metastatic disease pending completion of above
- Ongoing treatment per oncology, discussion of alternative regimens
- 5 year Survival 14%

# High Quality Surgery for Colon Cancer

- Essential to good outcomes
  - Survival Benefit has been linked to correct surgery
- Clear Margins
  - 5cm proximal and distal
  - Total Mesocolic Excision
- Adequate Lymph Node Removal
  - At least 12 nodes should be removed.
    - Fewer than 12 nodes is a high risk feature for recurrence or understaging
    - Only 80% success in achieving this goal as of 2011
  - Evidence increasing that the more nodes retrieved, the better the outcome
    - Recent studies suggest that for right-sided lesions, 22 nodes may be the more ideal target
- Colon Reconstruction with Bowel Anastomosis and Prompt Discharge Home
  - Complication rates 20-25%
  - Wound Infections, Pneumonia, MI, DVT, Bleeding, UTI, Ileus, ect.
  - Anastomotic leaks ~2-3%; Mortality ~1-2%



## Minimally Invasive Surgery- from novelty to standard of care

- 2004-2014- COST/CLASICC/COLOR/JCOG 0404/ALCCS trials have demonstrated non-inferiority for cancer resection. i.e. minimally invasive and open approaches have the same long-term and disease-free survival and recurrence rates
- Trials have shown clear advantage to laparoscopic when it comes to short-term benefits though
  - Shorter length of stay

-Faster Return of Bowel Function

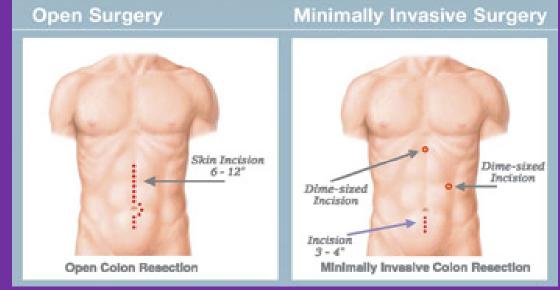
Less narcotic use

-Fewer Surgical Complications

- Grade 1 A recommendation to MIS from ASCRS (American College of Colon and Rectal Surgeons)
  - When feasible, minimally invasive approach is preferred
- Not a Universal Solution
  - Prior surgical history -Large Bulky Tumors
  - Obstruction -Body Habitus
- Technology has kept pace
  - Energy Devices -Staplers -Wound Protectors
  - Robotic Abilities and instrumentation
- Surgical Experience has Increased
  - Late 90s- "I saw a couple laparoscopic cases in training"
  - Today- "I did more laparoscopy than open surgery in training"
- 2019- New Studies Suggesting Laparoscopy may be <u>Superior</u>
  - Denmark-Laparoscopic Approach associated with higher probability of good resection quality compared to open resection
  - China- Laparoscopic Approach superior to Open for nodal counts and other quality measures

In the coming decade, the question is no longer:

"CAN YOU DO MINIMALLY INVASIVE SURGERY?" but rather "WHY DIDN'T YOU DO MINIMALLY INVASIVE SURGERY?"



## Treatment of Colon and Rectal Cancer: Overview Rectum

- Rectal Cancer
  - Much more complex
  - Accurate Staging with complete Endoscopy; CT Chest/Abdomen/Pelvis; CEA Level
  - Additional Local Staging needed with MRI and/or Endoscopic Ultrasound to determine the T-stage and N-stage preoperatively
  - Role of Neoadjuvent AND Adjuvant Chemotherapy and Radiation Therapy
  - Surgical Complexity Increases- Multiple Surgical Options

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- •T1 or T2 (confined to the submucosa or muscularis propria)
- Surgical Resection of Disease
- •Complete TME with Nodes
- •vs TransAnal Excision
- •Follow up Surveillance
- 5 year Survival 89%

#### Stage II/III

- •T3 or T4 or N1/N2 (through the muscularis propria or involving lymph nodes)
- •Neoadjuvent Chemotherapy and Radiation
- •Surgical Resection of Primary Disease
- Additional Chemotherapy depending on results
- Ostomy Reversal Surgery
- •Follow up Surveillance
- 5 year Survival 70%\*

#### Stage IV

- Any Metastatic Disease
- Chemotherapy
- Radiation pending above
- Surgical Resection of Primary site +/metastatic disease pending completion of above
- Ongoing treatment per oncology, discussion of alternative regimens
- 5 year Survival 15%

- Increased Surgical Risk
  - Length of operation, bleeding, injuries
- Bladder and Sexual Function
- Pre-existing vs Resulting Incontinence
- Chemo/Radiation Alone
- Locally Advanced Lesion
  - Urology and/or GYN-Onc input
- Permanent vs Temporary Ostomy
  - Tumor factors, patient function, choice
- Patient Desire for Trans-Anal Procedure
  - Compromise of oncologic outcome

# Rectal Cancer: Multidisciplinary Conference

Oncologist -chemotherapy -surveillance

-prognosis

Gastroenterologist -diagnosis

-workup

-surveillance

Surgeon

-resection plan and timing

-ostomy placement/reversal -palliation

-patient outreach
-care coordination

100% Case Presentation Goal

Radiologist

-staging

-treatment response

Radiation Oncologist -local control of disease

Pathologist -diagnosis

-treatment results and prognosis

# High Volume Centers, Multidisciplinary Conferences, Credentialing

- Multidisciplinary conference has been shown to enhance care and improve outcomes
- 2015 Study showed a change in management plan in 29% of presented cases
- 2017 Study using Data from the National Cancer Database
  - 2006 to 2012- high volume centers (>26 cases per year) associated with higher nodal counts, high compliance with chemo/radiation, lower 30 and 90 day mortality and improved 5 year survival.
  - Patients who traveled long distances for treatment
- "Nowhere in colorectal surgery are therapeutic decisions more complex or more important to long-term patient outcomes than in the treatment of rectal cancer"-ASCRS Textbook
- National Accreditation Program for Rectal Cancer
  - OSTRiCh Consortium (Optimizing the Surgical Treatment of Rectal Cancer)
  - CoC (Commission on Cancer)
  - Only 13 listed so far, but predict many more on the way in the coming decade

# Ostomies- a matter of perspective?



- Data confirm a negative impact on quality of life
- Patient education has a positive effect though
- Preoperative stoma site marking decreases postop complications
- Most Ostomies are temporary and reversable, especially if they are planned in advance
- Future research into improving ostomy quality of life
- Vegan Ostomy



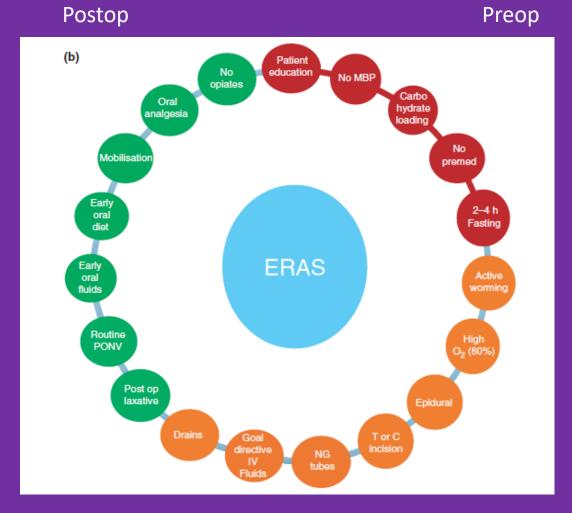
## **ERAS**: Early Recovery After Surgery

-Not just the latest buzzword, but an effective way to improve patient

outcomes

Reduced Infections

- Shorter Length of Stay
- Fewer adverse events
- Mobilization after surgery
- Reduced Narcotic Usage
- Faster Advancement of Diet
- Earlier Discharge Home
- Good for Patients, Good for Providers, Good for Hospitals
- Started in Colon and Rectal surgery, but starting to be more widely adopted in other surgical specialties as well



## **ERAS Outcomes**

- Reducing hospital average stay from 9 days to
   2.5 days
  - Many Patients now leaving on Post-op Day 1
- Liquids PO up to 3 hours before surgery
- Fluids Stopped within 24hrs of surgery
- Walking the day of surgery
- Solid Food PO the day of surgery
- Nasogastric Tubes only used in the event of post-op ileus
- Less Narcotic Usage
  - Many Patients don't even take narcotics post-op

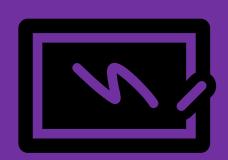


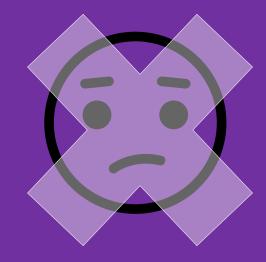
# Stage IV Cancer- not the end of options

- Historically Dismal survival rates of <10%</li>
- Many of these cases are not curable
- Liver Metastasis
  - Untreated disease has a median survival of 8 months, and <5% 5-year survival
  - Selected cases with potentially resect-able disease 30% survival
  - Even with chemotherapy alone, median survival is greater than 2 years, sometimes closer to 3
- Pulmonary Metastasis
  - Minimally invasive options are more prevalent for lung surgery as well
  - 5-year survival rates of 30-40% in series of lung resection for metastatic colorectal cancer
- Increased Understanding of Palliative Care and Hospice

### Take Home Points

- Colorectal Cancer is a common, but treatable problem, often with great outcomes
- Early Detection is key
- High-Quality Surgery remains the mainstay of curative treatment for Colon Cancer. Margins and Nodal Counts
- Complex Decision Making with Rectal Cancer means multidisciplinary conferences, credentialing, and treatment at high volume centers
- ERAS is leading the way to better patient outcomes
- Treatment options may be better than patients think









That's All Folks!

# Questions? Comments? Coffee Time?



