Colorectal Cancer

Colorectal cancer (CRC), is the 3rd most commonly diagnosed cancer in the world. Worldwide incidence is expected to increase from 1.8 million cases diagnosed in 2018 to 3.1 million cases by 2040.

What is CRC?

CRC forms in the tissues of the colon or rectum, often beginning as a growth called a polyp, which may form on the inner walls of the gastrointestinal system.

CRC is more common in men than women.

Patients with advanced forms of CRC have fewer treatment options and lower survival rates.

About 4-5% of patients with metastatic CRC have MSI-H or dMMR tumors.

Common CRC Subtypes

Some cases of CRC are microsatellite instability high (MSI-H) or DNA mismatch repair deficient (dMMR), which occurs when there are deficiencies in the cell’s ability to repair DNA errors during cell division. Patients with these subtypes often have a poor prognosis with lower survival rates.

Staging & Survival Rates

The 5-year relative survival rates vary globally depending on the stage and type of CRC.

5-Year Survival Rate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Colon Cancer</th>
<th>Rectal Cancer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Localized</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distant</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: SEER 19 2008-2014

Global Incidence

Estimated numbers of annual new CRC cases by region (thousands)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Cases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North America</td>
<td>179.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>499.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>957.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South America</td>
<td>97.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central America</td>
<td>19.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>61.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia &amp; New Zealand</td>
<td>21.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Common Risk Factors

- Obesity
- Physical Inactivity
- Smoking
- Heavy Alcohol Use
- Age Over 50
- Family History

Signs & Symptoms

- Weakness and Fatigue
- Rectal Bleeding
- Cramping or Abdominal Pain
- Unintended Weight Loss
- Change in Bowel Habits (Such as Diarrhea & Constipation)
- Blood in the Stool

Treatment Options

A patient’s treatment options are largely dependent on stage of disease, and in some cases biomarkers, and may include:

- Surgery
- Targeted Therapy
- Chemotherapy
- Radiation Therapy
- Immunotherapy

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