Colorectal cancer (CRC) is the third most commonly diagnosed cancer in the world. Worldwide incidence is expected to increase from 1.9 million cases diagnosed in 2020 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.

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 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.

Staging & Survival Rates
The five-year relative survival rates for CRC vary depending on its stage and type:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Survival Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Localized</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distant</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unstaged</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Common Risk Factors
- Obesity
- Physical Inactivity
- Smoking
- Heavy Alcohol Use
- Adults Ages 50+
- Family History

Treatment Options
A patient’s treatment options are largely dependent on the stage of disease, and in some cases biomarkers, and may include:
- Surgery
- Targeted Therapy
- Chemotherapy
- Radiation Therapy
- Immunotherapy

Global Incidence
Estimated numbers of annual new CRC cases by region:
- North America: 180,600
- Europe: 519,800
- Asia: 1,009,400
- Central America & the Caribbean: 31,000
- Africa: 66,200
- South America: 104,000
- Oceania: 20,700

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