# Management of Rectal Cancer



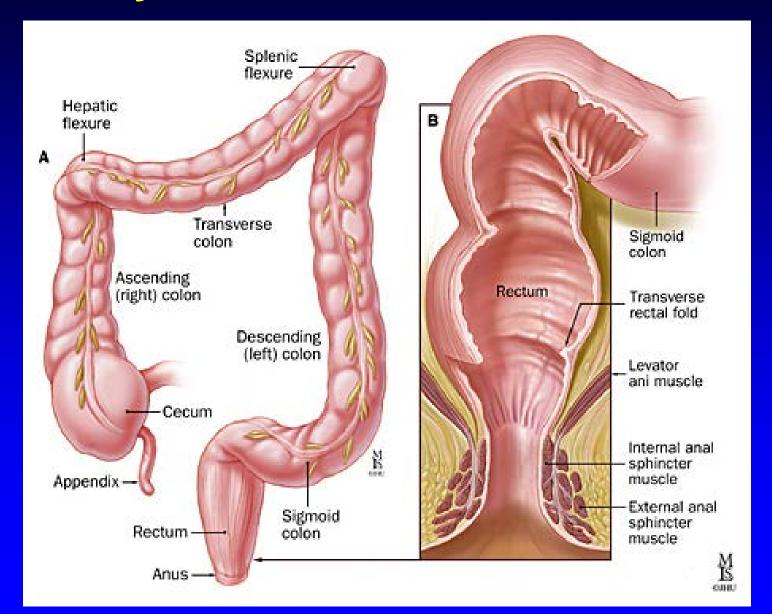
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**Disclosures: NONE** 

# **Anatomy of the Colon and Rectum**



## **Rectal Cancer**

- Defined as <12 cm from the anal verge by rigid proctoscopy.
- Distinct clinical management issues:
  - Increased local recurrence
  - Use of adjuvant radiation therapy
  - Use of neoadjuvant therapy and need to stage prior to surgery
  - Sphincter preservation
  - Concerns of urinary and sexual dysfunction

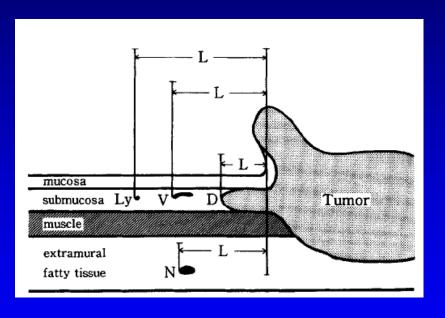
# **Goals of Rectal Cancer Surgery**

- Improved local control
- Improved overall survival
- Maintaining quality of life
- Sphincter preservation
- Satisfactory bowel function
- Maintain genitourinary function
- Maintain sexual function

# Sphincter Preservation for Rectal Cancer OUTLINE

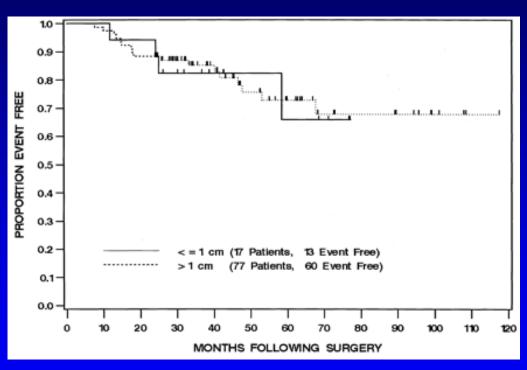
- 1. What is the minimal distal margin bowel margin?
- Importance of the circumferential margin and total mesorectal excision.
- 3. Impact of neoadjuvant therapy on sphincter preservation.
- 4. Reconstruction techniques & laparoscopy.
- 5. Role of diverting ileostomy.
- 6. Transanal local excision.

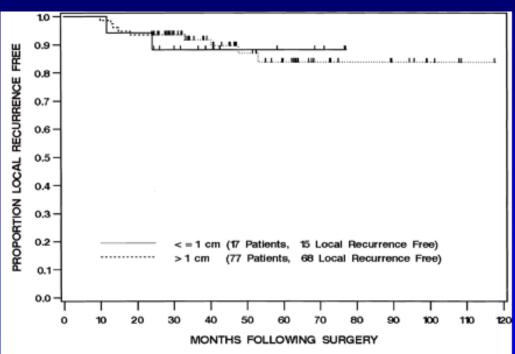
# Distal Intramural Spread of Rectal Cancer: End of the "5-cm Rule"



Stage		Distal Spread			
	None	<1cm	1-2cm	>2cm	
I (n=150)	100%	0	0	0	
II (n=162)	98.8%	1.2%	0	0	
III (195)	90.2%	5.1%	2.1%		

# Adequacy of Even ≤1-cm Distal Margin After Neoadjuvant Therapy?

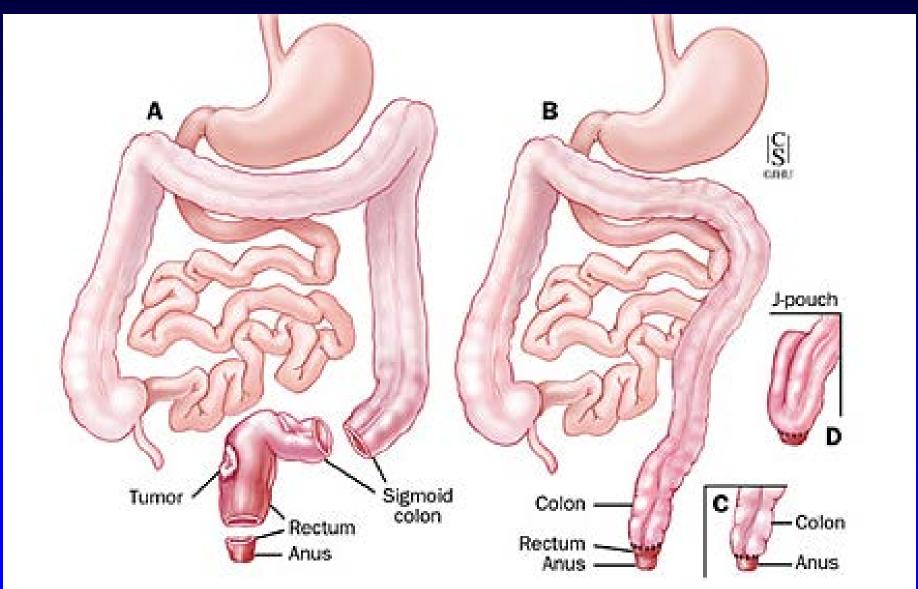




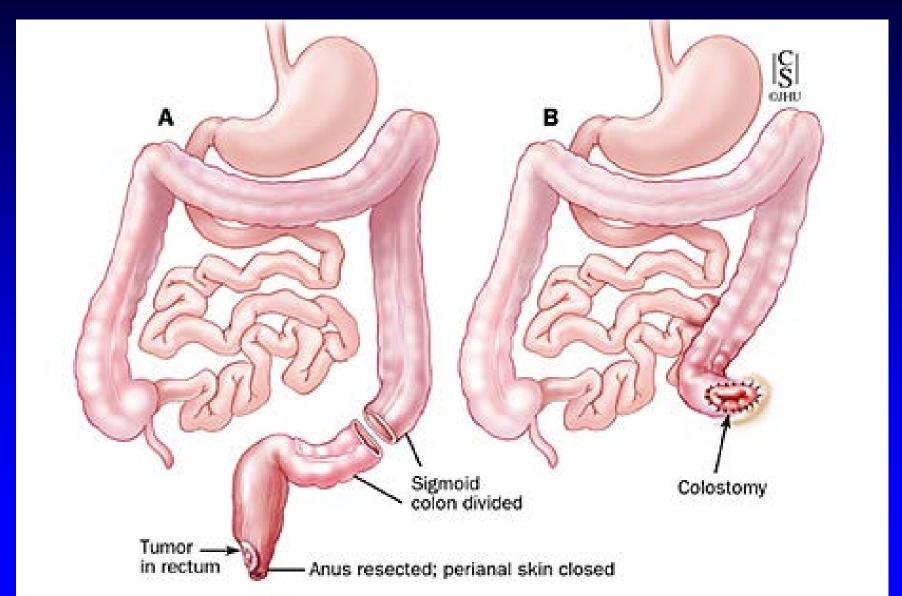
Disease Free Survival

**Local Recurrence** 

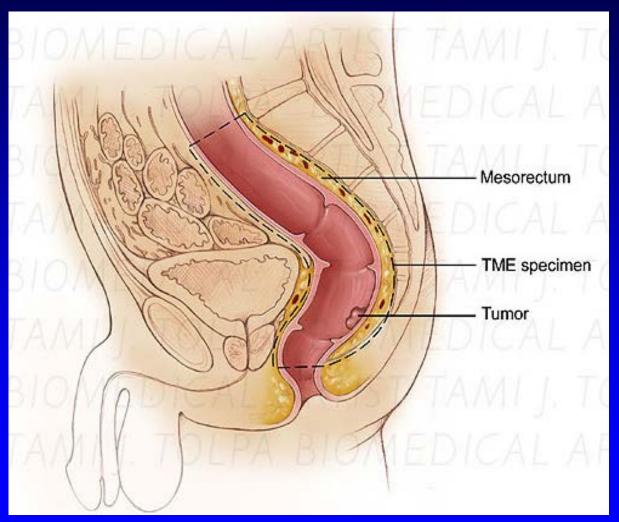
# Low Anterior Resection (LAR)

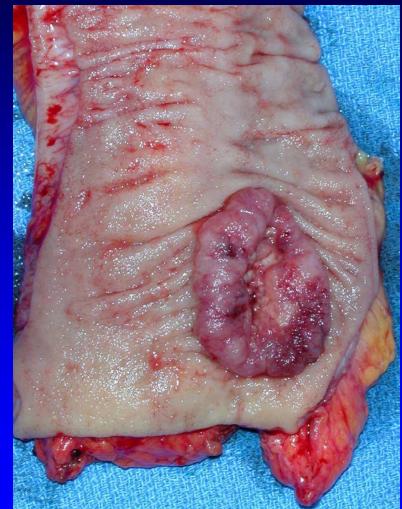


## **Abdominoperineal Resection (APR)**



# **Total Mesorectal Excision**



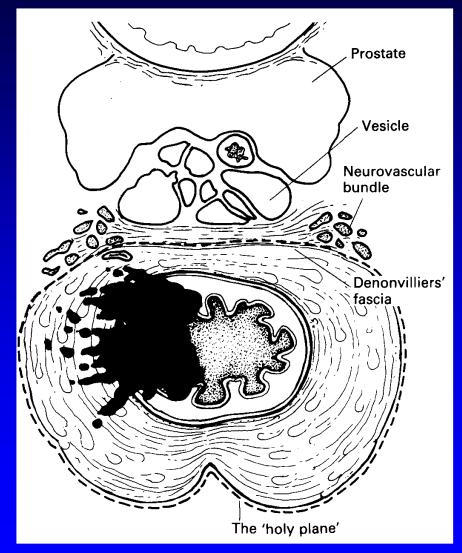


## Importance of the Radial Margin

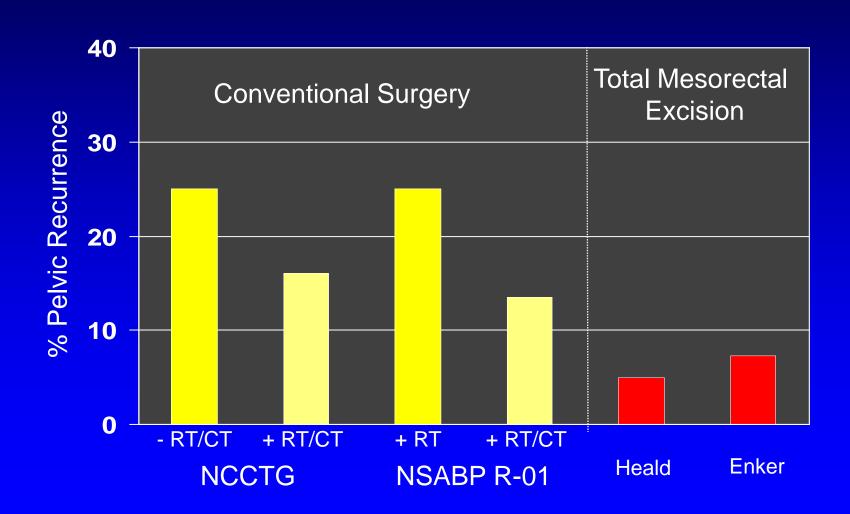
52 patients, 1983-1985
transabdominal resections
whole-mount pathologic evaluation
of radial resection margin
prospective follow-up

### **Results:**

- 27% with positive radial margin
- 12 of 14 with positive margins developed local pelvic recurrence (85%)
- 1 of 38 with negative margins developed LR (3%)



# Pelvic Recurrence Rates Following Curative Resection for Rectal Cancer



### Adjuvant Therapy for Rectal Cancer

## Preoperative vs. Postoperative

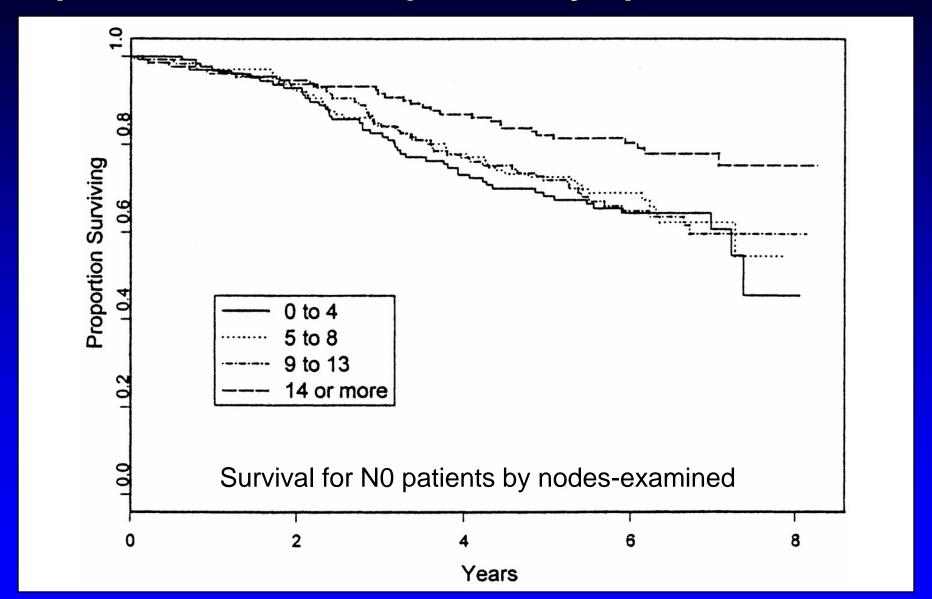
### **POTENTIAL ADVANTAGES:**

Conversion to sphincter-preservation
Less irradiated small bowel
Improved late bowel function
Earlier systemic therapy

#### **POTENTIAL DISADVANTAGES:**

Staging uncertainty
Overtreatment in some patients
Delay in surgical therapy
Increased operative complications?

### Importance of an Adequate of Lymph Node Harvest



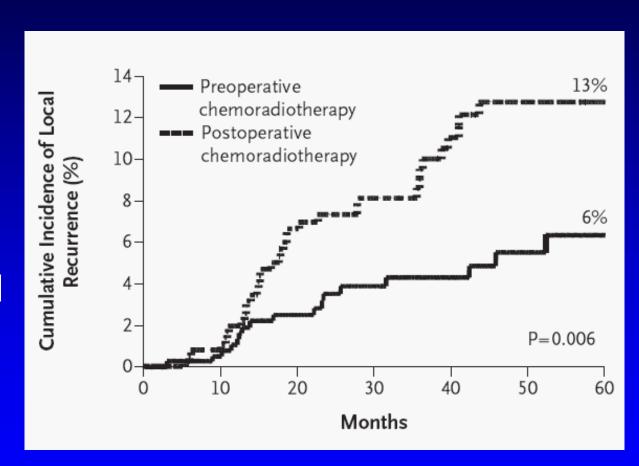
### **Neoadjuvant Chemoradiation**

## **German Rectal Cancer Study Group**

- Randomized trial preop vs. postop CRT
- Conventional therapy

### **RESULTS:**

- Improved local control
- Less toxicity
- No difference in survival



# Neoadjuvant Chemoradiation German Rectal Cancer Study Group

Table 4. Rates of Sphincter-Sparing Surgery in 194 Patients Determined by the Surgeon before Randomization to Require Abdominoperineal Resection, According to Actual Treatment Given.

Variable	Preoperative Chemoradiotherapy (N=415)	Postoperative Chemoradiotherapy (N=384)	P Value
Abdominoperineal resection deemed necessary — no. (%)	116 (28)	78 (20)	
Sphincter-preserving surgery performed — no./total no. (%)	45/116 (39)	15/78 (19)	0.004

# Neoadjuvant Short-Course Radiotherapy vs. Conventional Chemoradiation Therapy for Rectal Cancer

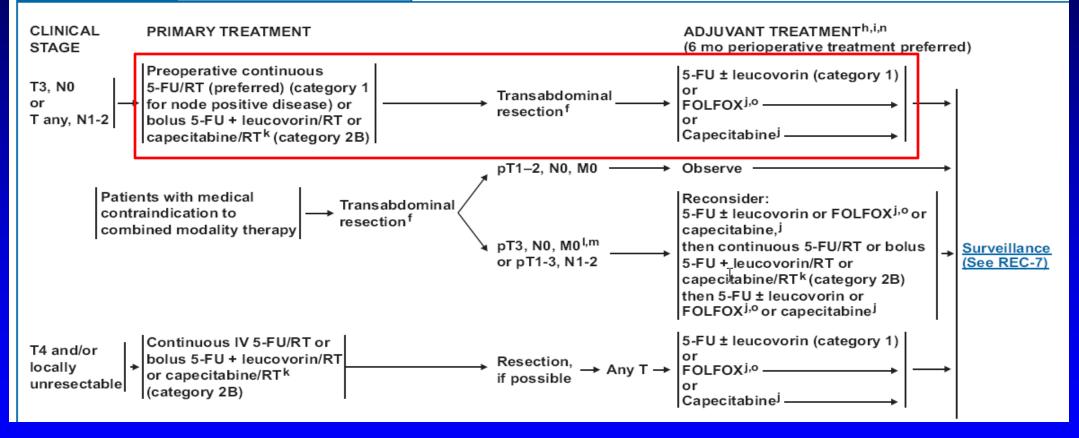
Polish randomized trial (n=316)

	Short Course RT	CRT
Sphincter preservation	61.2%	58.0%
Path CR	0.7%	16.1%*
Circum margin positive	e 12.9%	4.4%*
Late toxicity	28.3%	27%
Local recurrence	10.6%	15.6%

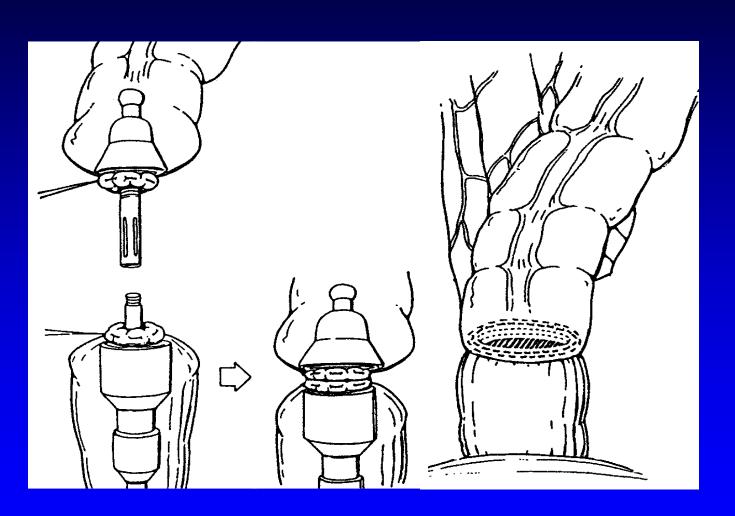
## NCCN® Practice in Oncolo

Practice Guidelines in Oncology – v.2.2010

#### **Rectal Cancer**

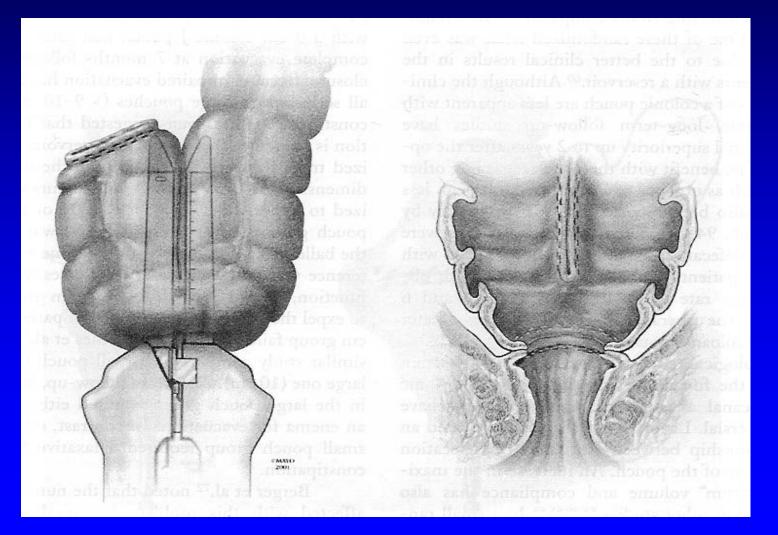


# Restorative Proctectomy

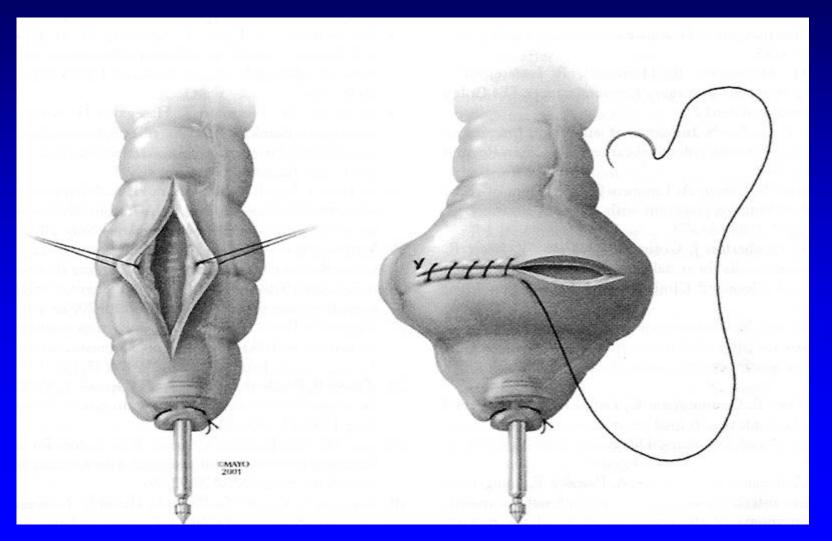




# Restorative Proctectomy Colonic J-pouch



# Restorative Proctectomy Coloplasty

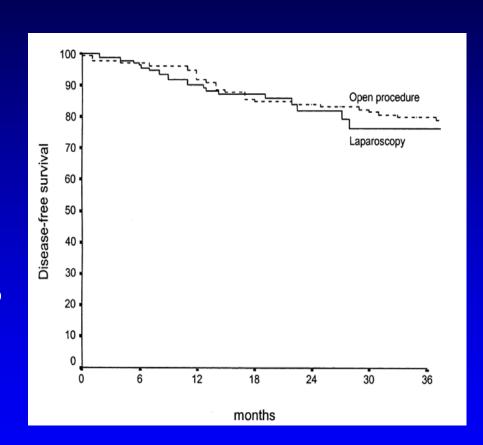


## Laparoscopic Rectal Cancer Resection

144 patients5.5 cm (range 1–12) from the anal verge123 patients received preoperative radiotherapy

#### Results

Mortality & morbidity were 1% and 34% Conversion was 14% (n = 20) Intact mesorectum in 88% of the cases Compared to matched open group, no difference in margin status, local recurrence or overall survival.



## **Local Excision: Selection Criteria**

### Lesion amenable to local excision

- Within reach of technique
- Full thickness
- Nonfragmented
- Negative margins

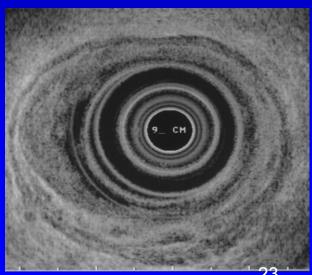
### No adverse pathologic criteria

- High grade lesion
- lymphovascular invasion
- Signet-ring cells
- Colloid histology

### uT1 or ?uT2 on ERUS

No evidence of lymph node metastases Patient not a candidate for LAR or APR





# Incidence of Positive Lymph Nodes by Pathologic Features

T-Stage	n	T1	T2	<b>T3</b>	<b>T4</b>
Nelson (1987)	76		20%	67%	
Morson (1979)	2084	11%	12%	58%	
Minsky (1989)	168	0%	28%	36%	53%
Brodsky (1992)	154	12%	22%		
Differentiation	n	Well	Mod	Poor	
Cohen (1980)	247	29%	32%	63%	
Nelson (1987)	76	38%	57%		
Minsky (1989)	168	0%	30%	50%	
Brodsky (1992)	154	0%	24%		24

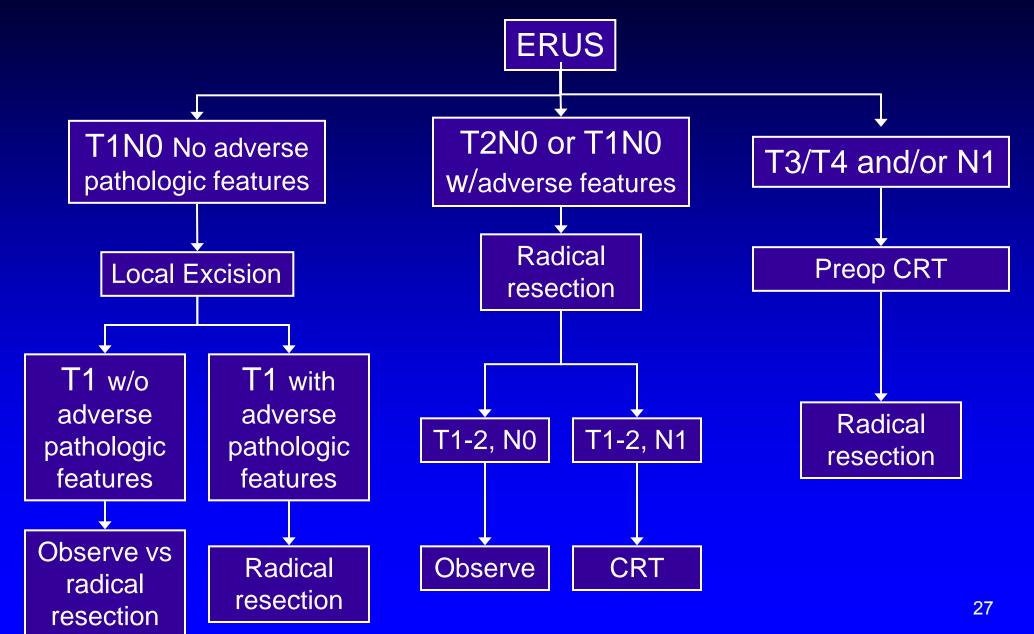
# Outcomes Following Transanal Excision of Rectal Cancer

STUDY (yr)	N	FU (mo)	LR (%)	OS (%)
Chakavarti (99)	52	52	11 (T1) 62 (T2)	66
Steele (99)	110	48	7 (T1) 20 (T2)	87 (T1) 85 (T2)
Mellgren (00)	108	53	17 (T1) 46 (T2)	69
Paty (02)	125	80	17 (T1) 26 (T2)	74 (T1) 72 (T2)
Madbouly (05)	52	55	29 (T1)	89 (T1)

# Local Excision for Rectal Carcinoma Followed by Radiation Therapy

Study	Local Control	Survival
Princess Margaret Hospital	76%	80% 6-yr median
Fox Chase Cancer Center	81%	75% 5-yr DFS
MSKCC	82%	79%
CALBG	98%	96% 2-yr

### **Management of Rectal Cancer**



## Temporary Ileostomy: When is it Necessary?

- Arguments in favor of ileostomy:
  - "protects" from anastomotic leaks
  - Allows time for healing before bowel restoration
- Routine covering stoma has not been shown to be necessary
- Considered to be useful in patients at higher risk for anastomotic leak
  - Neoadjuvant radiotherapy
  - Coloanal anastomosis
  - Several comorbidities
- Take down is best performed after the completion of adjuvant therapy

# Protective Defunctioning Stoma in Low Anterior Resection for Rectal Carcinoma

German prospective study (2000-2001) 881 of 2729 LAR pts received protecting ostomy

	Stoma	No stoma	p		
Anastomotic leak	14.5%	14.2%	ns		
Leak req. reoperation	3.6%	10.1%	<0.001		
Mortality	0.9%	2.0%	0.037		
Stomal closure complications:					
Colostomy	15.3%				
lleostomy	22.4% (p=0	0.031)			

### **Patient Case**

A 55 yr. old college professor reports a 2 month history of narrow stools and occasional rectal bleeding. Colonoscopy demonstrates a mass 7 cm from anal verge and biopsy shows moderately differentiated adenocarcinoma.

### **Patient Case**

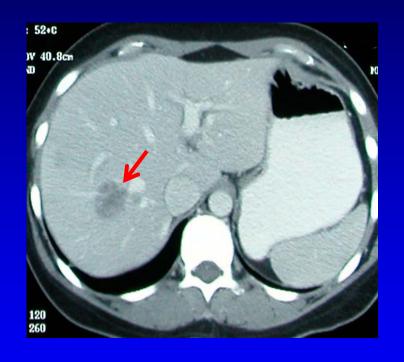
Appropriate staging work-up includes:

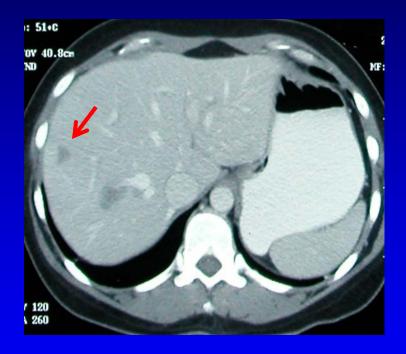
- a) CT scan chest, abdomen & pelvis
- b) Endorectal ultrasound
- c) FDG-PET scan
- d) pelvic MRI

### **Patient Case**

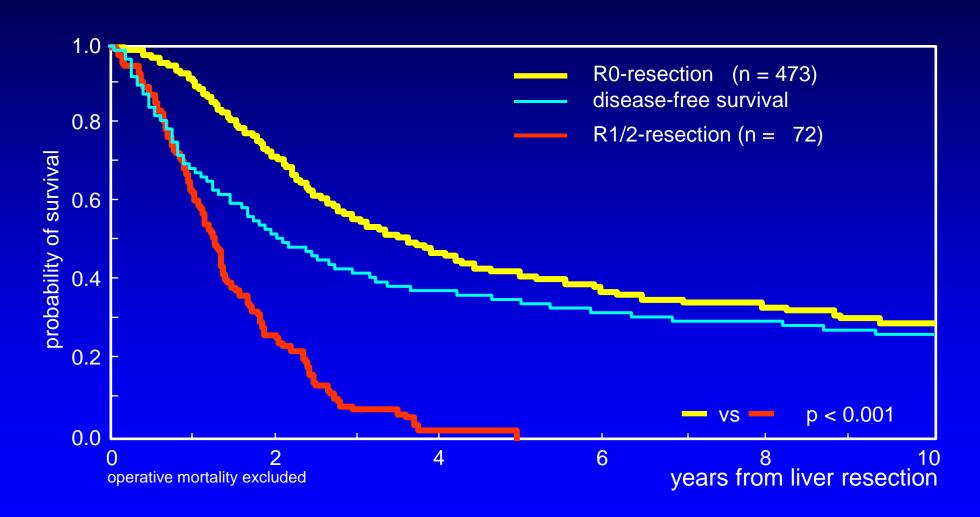
The imaging studies show that the tumor invades into the bowel wall  $(T_2)$  and that there is a single 2-cm perirectal node. What management options best pertain to this case?

- a) Low anterior resection; postoperative adjuvant chemoradiotherapy if nodes positive
- b) Neoadjuvant chemoradiotherapy using 5FU 300 mg/d CIV 5 days per week to coincide with radiotherapy, followed by surgery
- c) Neoadjuvant chemoradiotherapy using capecitabine 825 mg/m<sup>2</sup> po bid. continuously during RT, followed by surgery





# Outcomes Following Hepatic Resection for Metastatic Colorectal Cancer

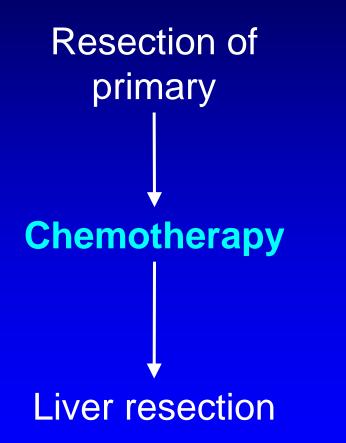


# Colorectal Cancer with Hepatic Metastases

- Approximately 30% to 40% of patients will have liver-only metastases at time of recurrence
- Approximately 20% to 30% will have liver-only metastases on initial evaluation

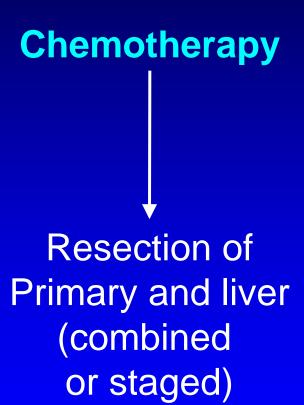
# 25-30,000 patients with liver-only metastases

# Management Options for Synchronous Colorectal Cancer and Resectable Liver Metastases



Resection of Primary and liver (combined or staged)

Chemotherapy



### Treatment of Rectal Cancer

## **Summary**

- Sphincter preservation and surgical technique
- 2. Importance of TME
- 3. Preoperative staging
- 4. Neoadjuvant therapy
- Selected role of local excision for early disease
- 6. Management of Stage IV rectal cancer

### **Management of Rectal Cancer**

## CONCLUSIONS

- 1. Better understanding of the importance of circumferential vs distal margin and TME
- 2. Preoperative chemoradiation therapy
- 3. Refined surgical techniques
  - stapled low bowel attachment
  - coloanal reconstruction
  - J-pouch and coloplasty
  - local excision in selected cases