

# Colorectal Cancer

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#### Disclosures

- Dr. Sian Shuel
  - No disclosures
- Dr. Keith Lowden
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## Learning Objectives

- Describe key patient care issues in the management of colorectal cancer
- Identify strategies to optimize outcomes for patients with colorectal cancer
- Identify and address the unique challenges in management of colorectal cancer.

#### Outline

- Risk factors for CRC
- CRC screening guidelines
- Approach to symptoms concerning for CRC
- Staging for colon cancer
- Adjuvant systemic therapy
- Follow up after adjuvant therapy
- Surgical resection of hepatic metastases
- Systemic therapy with palliative intent

#### Case

- ED, a 65 year old female booked an appointment with you today to discuss her risks for developing colon cancer. She is worried as she recently discovered his mother has a history of colon cancer.
- What would you like to know to help you identify her risk factors?

### Risk Factors

- Age
  - After the age of 50, the risk of developing CRC increases 6
  - 90% diagnosed after age 50

Probability of developing cancer in the next 10 years by age

	Lifetim e prob. Develo ping CRC	Lifetim e prob. Dying from CRC	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89
Men	7.5	3.6	0.1	0.2	0.8	2.0	3.4	3.3
women	6.4	3.1	0.1	0.2	0.6	1.3 So	2.3 urce: GPA	2.7 C 2013

#### Risk Factors <sup>7</sup>

- Family history
  - Any first degree relatives and age at diagnosis of CRC
  - Female relatives with endometrial cancer (Lynch Syndrome)
- History of inflammatory bowel disease (at least 8 years)
- Previous adenomatous polyps
- Previous colorectal cancer
- Lifestyle
  - Obesity, low physical activity, smoking, excessive alcohol, high fat and low fibre diets, red meat

# System Review

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- Rectal bleeding
- Diarrhea
- Weight loss
- Abdominal pain
- Loss of appetite
- Change in stooling frequency or caliber
- CRC screening in the past

#### Back to the case

- System review negative
  - For rectal bleeding, weight loss, loss of appetite, change in stooling frequency / caliber, diarrhea, abdo pain.

 Personal history negative for IBD, adenomatous polyps, CRC

- Healthy Lifestyle
  - Lifetime nonsmoker, Mediterranean diet, plays tennis twice a week, drinks 2 glasses wine per week, not overweight
- Mom was 64 at diagnosis
- No other 1<sup>st</sup> degree relatives with CRC
- Never had FIT or colonoscopy

• Does ED need to be screened for CRC?

• If so, how?

# BC Colon Screening Program Who?

Asymptomatic men and women ages 50 to 74

# Screening: How?

- Fecal Immunochemical Test (FIT) for average risk colorectal cancer screening
  - 88% sensitivity
  - 90% specificity for detecting CRC

## Screening: How?

- Screening colonoscopy for higher than average risk
  - One first degree relative diagnosed with colorectal cancer under the age of 60 (10 years prior to index case or age 40 - whichever is first)
  - Two or more first degree relatives diagnosed with colorectal cancer at any age
  - Personal history of adenomas

# Screening: How Often?

- Average Risk
  - FIT every 2 years
  - Following a positive FIT and negative colonoscopy, FIT should resume in 10 years.

- Higher than average risk
  - Colonoscopy
    - Every 5 years if family history of colorectal cancer
    - In 5 years after diagnosed with low risk adenoma
    - In 3 years after diagnosed with high risk adenoma

#### FIT NOT Recommended If:

- Currently having symptoms
- Personal history of colon cancer
- Personal history of Crohn's or Ulcerative Colitis

- Normal flexible sigmoidoscopy or CT colonography within 5 years, normal colonoscopy within 10 years, normal FIT within 2 years
- Not medically fit to undergo colonoscopy

### FIT Update (Nov 16/17)

- FIT temporarily suspended in BC Oct 3
  - Positives increased from 14% to over 20% from July to September (indicating too many false positives)
  - Believed to be a problem with the manufacturer reagent
  - Could take a number of months to resume

## FIT Update (Nov 16/17)

- Do not refer patients for FIT screening
- The Colon Screening Program will let physicians know once FIT is available
- No alternative test being recommended complete the test when FIT becomes available

# Lynch Syndrome (Hereditary nonpolyposis CRC)

- Due to germline mutation in mismatch repair gene
- Autosomal dominant inheritance
- Lifetime risk of CRC is 40-90%
- Earlier presentation of CRC
- Increased risk of other malignancies
- Screening program of yearly colonoscopy beginning at 20-25 years old

## Familial adenomatous polyposis

- Due to mutations of adenomatous polyposis coli gene
- Autosomal dominant inheritance
- Develop between 100-1000 adenomatous colonic polyps by age 30
- 90% risk of developing colorectal cancer
- Mutation carriers should have yearly flexible sigmoidoscopy starting at puberty
- Once polyposis identified, colectomy indicated

#### Back to our case...

- ED presents to your office 4 years later with abdominal pain, occasional diarrhea, and occasional maroon stools.
- What else do you want to know?
  - Amount
  - Systemic symptoms
  - Change in frequency or caliber of stool

- Physical exam
  - Fullness and tenderness to right lower quadrant

- Labs
  - CBC and ferritin (reasonable if over 40 or other risks for colon cancer)
  - microcytic anemia (hemoglobin 117, MCV 72)

# How do you proceed?

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Colonoscopy

#### Results

- Colonoscopy
  - "a circumferential constricting mass with a lumen too narrow to pass the endoscope through to reach the cecum. We took multiple biopsies."

- Pathology
  - "invasive moderately differentiated adenocarcinoma"

# What investigations are now recommended?

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CT chest abdomen pelvis

- CEA
  - Guides subsequent follow up

- CT chest abdo pelvis
  - Thickening of the cecal wall
  - No evidence of metastatic disease

- CEA
  - Elevated at 9.7

# Next Step?

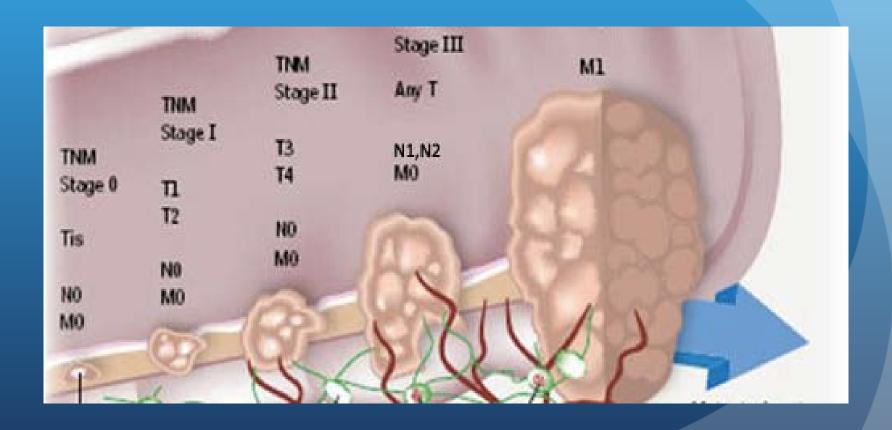
### Next step?

- Segmental colectomy (right hemicolectomy)
  - At least 5cm of grossly normal looking tissue from distal and proximal margins
  - En bloc regional lymphadenectomy (12 or more lymph nodes removed)
  - Primary anastomosis

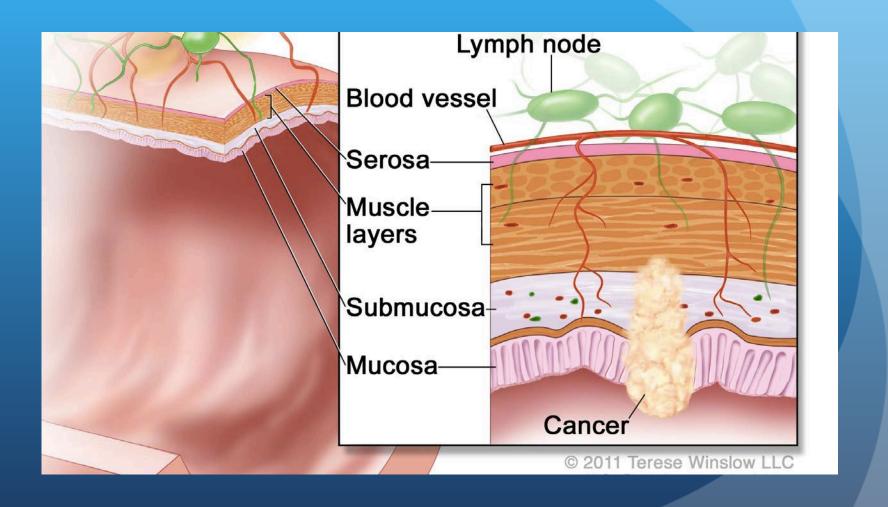
## Pathology report

- Cecal moderately differentiated adenocarcinoma invading into the pericolic fat.
- No perforation
- Lymphovascular invasion present
- Perineural invasion present
- 7/15 lymph nodes positive
- What stage cancer does our patient have?

# **TNM Staging**



# **TNM Staging**



### Our case:

pT3 pN2b Mx right sided colon cancer

• Stage 3 (any T, N1-2, M0)

## Treatment Options <sup>4</sup>

- Stage 0 (cancer limited to mucosa; no invasion of lamina propria)
  - Endoscopic polypectomy with margins clear
  - Segmental colectomy if lesions not amenable to local excision
- Stage 1 (T1-T2, N0, M0)
  - Segmental colectomy
  - No role for adjuvant chemotherapy

- Stage 2 (T3-T4, N0, M0)
  - Controversial
  - High risk features:
    - Inadequate lymph node sampling (<12 nodes)</li>
    - T4
    - Complete obstruction
    - Perforation
    - Poor differentiation
    - Lymphovascular invasion
    - Perineural invasion
    - Positive margins

- Tumor microsatellite instability 5
  - High levels (MSI-H) associated with favourable prognosis (and lack of benefit of 5-FU chemotherapy)

• stage 2A (T3N0) with high risk features may be offered adjuvant capecitabine for 6 months

- stage 2B (T4aN0) and stage 2C (T4bN0)
  - may be offered adjuvant capecitabine
  - modified FOLFOX6 (GIAJFFOX) may be considered if more high risk features in very motivated patients

- Early referral to medical oncology for stage 2 advised
  - Adjuvant chemotherapy should start 4 weeks after surgery if possible

- Stage 3 (any T, N1-N2, M0)
  - Segmental colectomy
  - Adjuvant chemotherapy to start about 4 weeks post op
  - Options include FOLFOX or CAPOX for 6 months
  - Capecitabine or 5FU for less fit or less interested patients

 For patients with low risk disease (T1-3, N1) 3 months of oxaliplatin-based chemo is being looked at but results are still preliminary and initial evidence not overwhelming

#### Back to our case:

- Adjuvant CAPOX, switched to FOLFOX due to side effects
- Completed 6 months of therapy
- Completion CT scan negative
- CEA 1

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