

Colorectal cancer (update)

Supplement 3: Glossary

NICE guideline TBC

Glossary

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*Supplementary material was developed by the
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Glossary

Definitions for many of the terms used in NICE guidelines are available at <https://www.nice.org.uk/process/pmg20/chapter/glossary>. This glossary defines the terms that are specific to this guideline.

Term	Definition
Abdominoperineal excision of rectum (APER)	A combined operation through the abdomen and perineum which involves the removal of the anus, rectum, and distal sigmoid colon, resulting in the need for a permanent colostomy.
Acute left-sided large bowel obstruction	An emergency condition where there is a blockage in the large bowel that prevents food and gas from passing through, the most common cause of which is a tumour.
Adjuvant therapy	Refers to treatment following surgery to help decrease the risk of cancer recurring.
Anterior resection	An operation through the abdomen which involves the removal of all or part of the rectum, preserving the anal canal with a join made between the remaining colon and anus.
Beyond-TME resection	When a tumour extends beyond what is achievable to resect by TME and requires more extensive surgery to achieve clear margins.
Colonic stent	A hollow tube used to keep a segment of the large bowel open when it becomes blocked by a tumour that causes a stricture (narrowing).
Cytoreductive surgery (CRS)	A surgical procedure used to remove tumours from patients with peritoneal metastases or cancer. Sometimes used together with hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy.
Distant metastases	Cancer that has spread from the original (primary) tumour to distant organs or distant lymph nodes.
Early rectal cancer	In this guideline early rectal cancer is defined as T1-2, N0, M0 according to the TNM classification.
Endoscopic submucosal dissection (ESD)	Removal of a colorectal adenoma or early cancer using particular instruments inserted through a flexible telescope (colonoscope).
Exenterative surgery	Surgical treatment to remove most or all organs from a person's pelvic cavity.
Hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy (HIPEC)	A type of treatment for metastases or cancer in the peritoneum (lining of the abdominal cavity), including a process of heating chemotherapy drugs and delivering them directly into the abdominal cavity. Usually delivered together with cytoreductive surgery.
Laparoscopic surgery	A minimally invasive surgical approach where the surgeon makes several small incisions whilst using an operating telescope to access the interior of the body.
Local recurrence	The reappearance of cancer cells after treatment, at the same place they were originally found.
Low anterior resection syndrome (LARS)	A collection of symptoms people may have after undergoing low anterior resection sphincter-preserving surgery, including increased frequency of stool, urgency with or without incontinence of stool, feeling of incomplete emptying, fragmentation of stool (passing small amounts little and often), difficulty in differentiating between gas and stool.
Lynch syndrome	Also known as hereditary non-polyposis colorectal cancer (HNPCC), a type of inherited cancer syndrome associated with a genetic predisposition to different cancer types. This means that people with Lynch syndrome have a higher risk of certain types of cancer, particularly bowel cancer.
Major resection for rectal cancer	Major resection for rectal cancer means surgeries where part or whole of the rectum are removed, including anterior resection and abdominoperineal resection.

Term	Definition
Metastasectomy	Surgical resection of the metastasis
Molecular biomarker	A molecule that can be measured, which points to the presence of a disease, a physiological change, response to a treatment, or a psychological condition.
Neoadjuvant treatment	Treatment given before surgery
Open surgery	Also known as laparotomy. A traditional type of surgery in which an incision is made using a scalpel. Open surgery is less common than it used to be due to the creation of minimally invasive surgical techniques that involve small incisions or in some cases, no incision at all.
Palliative care	Treatment, care and support for people with incurable disease. Palliative care is focused on relieving pain and other symptoms and stresses related to the illness.
Positive margin	When the surgeon is unable to remove all of the disease with a margin of healthy normal tissue, and so there is concern that it is possible that cancerous cells might remain.
Recovery protocols	Recovery protocols, such as 'enhanced recovery after surgery' or ERAS, are perioperative care pathways designed to promote early recovery for patients undergoing major surgery by optimising the person's health before surgery and maintaining health and functioning after surgery.
Resection margin	Non-cancerous tissue around a tumour that has been surgically removed.
Robotic surgery	Sometimes called robotically-assisted surgery. A type of minimally invasive surgery where the surgeon uses a robotic system to operate.
Selective internal radiation therapy (SIRT)	A type of radiation therapy to treat cancer or metastases in the liver by injecting tiny microspheres of radioactive material into the arteries that supply the tumour.
Social identity	Change to social identity is about change to people's concept of themselves as a result of either their cancer, or the long-term side effects from treatment. For example, it could cover changes from being a previously fit person to someone who has physical or mental health problems, from being someone with the expectation of years to live to someone with a limited life expectancy, or the change from being a carer to becoming cared for.
Stereotactic radiotherapy (SBRT)	A way of giving a high dose of external beam radiotherapy very precisely to a tumour. It uses a high energy beam similar to that used for standard radiotherapy but delivers the treatment through multiple beams of radiation aimed at the tumour from different directions.
Stoma	A surgically created opening in the abdomen with the the colon (known as colostomy) or small bowel (known as ileostomy) brought through it to , provide an alternative way for faeces to leave the body. May be reversible or permanent.
Systemic anti-cancer therapy (SACT)	Drugs to treat cancer cells that circulate throughout the body in the bloodstream, including chemotherapy, hormonal therapy, targeted drugs, and immunotherapy.
TNM classification	Tumour, node, metastasis (TNM) classification developed by the Union for Interventional Cancer Control (UICC) describes the stage of the cancer.
Transanal endoscopic microsurgery (TEMS)	A type of transanal excision, using a specifically designed operating microscope and instruments to allow surgery to be performed through the anus.
Transanal excision (TAE)	An operation using instruments put through the anus to remove benign rectal polyps (adenomas) and/or early stage rectal cancers,
Transanal minimally invasive surgery (TAMIS)	A type of transanal excision, a minimally invasive approach for removing benign polyps and early stage cancerous tumours within the rectum.

Term	Definition
Transanal total mesorectal excision (TaTME)	This procedure used for patients who need to have their whole rectum removed. The rectum is removed using instruments introduced through the anus, combined with laparoscopic (keyhole) surgery through the abdomen, rather than through a long incision or laparoscopic in the lower abdomen.
Total mesorectal excision (TME)	A standard technique for treatment of rectal cancer. The rectum and its surrounding lymph nodes (known as the mesorectum) is surgically mobilised in a precise fashion to allow removal of the rectal tumour, surrounding normal rectum and the mesorectum.