Follow-up protocol: colon and rectal cancer

Stage I and II Surgery only

Colon cancer (no adj chemo)
Rectal cancer (no neoadj tmt)

Owner: Surgeon

Outcomes measurement points (rectal cancer only)

Comorbidities
- Patient-reported

Treatment complications
- Patient-reported

Survival & disease control
- Patient-reported

Survival & disease control
- Patient-reported

Survival & disease control
- Patient-reported

Survival & disease control
- Patient-reported

Survival & disease control
- Patient-reported

Survival & disease control
- Patient-reported

Survival & disease control
- Patient-reported

Time period: from surgery if disease-free; from CT scan if recurrence or disease progression

Subsequent colonoscopy interval: if normal at 1-year post-surgery, repeat 5-yearly; adenomas- repeat as per adenoma chart; cancer- refer as appropriate.

CT scanning for stage I patients: not included in recommended routine follow-up in NCCN and Ontario guidelines – up to discretion of clinician.
Follow-up protocol: colon and rectal cancer

Stage II and III
With neo/adj tmt

Colon cancer (with adj chemo)
Rectal cancer (with neoadj tmt)

Owner: Medical/ Radiation Oncologist

Outcomes measurement points (rectal cancer only)

Comorbidities
Treatment complications
Survival & disease control

Stage IV colon and rectal cancer
Owner: Medical Oncologist

Frail patients >80yrs: follow-up with GP

* Time period: taken from first treatment, then resets after second treatment; from CT scan if recurrence or disease progression
** Subsequent colonoscopy interval: if normal at 1-year post-surgery, repeat 5-yearly; adenomas- repeat as per adenoma chart; cancer- refer as appropriate.
Follow-up protocol: references


7. Australian Cancer Survivorship Centre, Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, *Follow-up of colorectal cancer survivors*.


*Note: This protocol contains evidence-based recommendations for follow-up, but should be tailored to individual patient needs*