



OUR GOAL

IS TO RAISE AWARENESS FOR PEOPLE DIAGNOSED WITH CANCER.

Our purpose is to create awareness about Cancer, to educate on early detection and to render palliative care to Cancer patients.

Together with our Partnered institutions, we work harmoniously in all areas related to addressing Cancer control objectives in order to take care of patients with Cancer and support families of survivors.

STOMACH CANCER

WHAT IS STOMACH CANCER?

Stomach cancer, also called gastric cancer, begins when healthy cells change and grow out of control, forming a tumor. Cancer can begin in any part of the stomach and may spread to nearby lymph nodes or other areas of the body, such as the liver, bones, lungs, and a woman's ovaries.

WHAT IS THE FUNCTION OF THE STOMACH?

The stomach is located in the upper abdomen and plays a central role in digesting food. When food is swallowed, it is pushed down the muscular tube called the esophagus, which connects the throat with the stomach. Then, the food enters the stomach. The stomach mixes the food and releases gastric juices that help break down and digest the food. The food then moves into the small intestine for further digestion.

WHAT DOES STAGE MEAN?

The stage is a way of describing where the cancer is located, if or where it has spread, and whether it is affecting other parts of the body. There are 5 stages for stomach adenocarcinoma: stage 0 (zero) and stages I through IV (1 through 4).

Find more information at www.cancer.net/stomach.

HOW IS STOMACH CANCER TREATED?

The treatment of stomach cancer depends on the size and location of the tumor, whether the cancer has spread, and the person's overall health. Stomach cancer may be treated with surgery, radiation therapy, chemotherapy, or targeted therapy. Often, a combination of these treatments is used. It may be difficult to cure stomach cancer because it is often not found until it is in an advanced stage.

When the cancer is only found in the stomach (stages 0 or I), surgery is used to remove the part of the stomach with cancer and nearby lymph nodes. If the cancer has spread to the outer stomach wall, chemotherapy plus surgery or radiation therapy may be used. Stomach cancer that has spread to other parts of the body is mainly treated with chemotherapy. When making treatment decisions, people may also consider a clinical trial. Clinical trials are an option to consider for treatment and care for all stages of cancer. Talk with your doctor about all treatment options. The side effects of stomach cancer treatment can often be prevented or managed with the help of your health care team. This is called supportive care or palliative care and is an important part of the

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SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF STOMACH CANCER MAY INCLUDE:

- Difficulty swallowing.
- Feeling bloated after eating.
- Feeling full after eating small amounts of food.
- Heartburn.
- Indigestion.
- Nausea.
- Stomach pain.
- Unintentional weight loss.

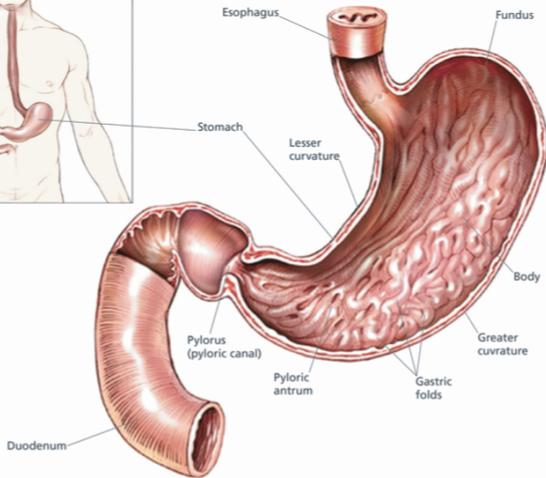
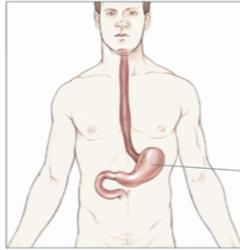


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PLEASE CONSULT A HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL SHOULD YOU BE EXPERIENCING ANY OF THE ABOVE SYMPTOMS

WORDS TO KNOW

ADENOCARCINOMA: Cancer that begins in the glandular tissue that lines the inside of the stomach.

BENIGN: A tumor that can grow but will not spread.

BIOPSY: Removal of a tissue sample that is then examined under a microscope to check for cancer cells.

CHEMOTHERAPY: The use of drugs to destroy cancer cells.

ENDOSCOPY: A procedure to examine the stomach using a thin, flexible tube called a gastroscope; may also be used to collect a tissue sample.

GASTROENTEROLOGIST: A doctor who treats conditions of the gastrointestinal tract.

LYMPH NODE: A small, bean-shaped organ that fights infection.

MALIGNANT: A tumor that can grow and spread to other parts of the body.

METASTASIS: The spread of cancer from where it began to another part of the body.

ONCOLOGIST: A doctor who specializes in treating cancer. The use of high-energy x-rays to destroy cancer cells.

TUMOR: A mass formed when normal cells begin to change and grow out of control.

HOW CAN I COPE WITH STOMACH CANCER?

Absorbing the news of a cancer diagnosis and communicating with your health care team are key parts of the coping process. Seeking support, organizing your health information, making sure all of your questions are answered, and participating in the decision-making process are other steps. Talk with your health care team about any concerns. Understanding your emotions and those of people close to you can be helpful in managing the diagnosis, treatment, and healing process.

Most stomach cancers are a type called adenocarcinoma. Other, less common types of cancerous tumors that form in the stomach include lymphoma, gastric sarcoma, and neuroendocrine (carcinoid) tumors.

IF YOU REQUIRE GUIDANCE CONTACT FILOTIMO CANCER PROJECT FOR ASSISTANCE.

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