

Pathfinder series: Anal & rectal cancer

Websites:

American Cancer Society- All About Anal Cancer

<http://www.cancer.org/docroot/CRI/CRI2x.asp?sitearea=&dt=47>

From the ACS's website, users can get an overview or a detailed guide to anal cancer, depending on how much information they want at any given time. Both provide a "What is anal cancer?" section, as well as information about diagnosis and treatment, questions to ask your healthcare team and more. For latest news and updates, patients can check the "What's new in anal cancer research and treatment?" section as well.

Medline Plus- Anal Cancer <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/analcancer.html>

Medline Plus- Rectal Cancer <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/colorectalcaner.html>

From the National Library of Medicine in the U.S, Medline Plus is a subject directory, pointing you to various resources that help explain different types of cancer. The pages are broken into different sections including diagnosis and symptoms, disease management, research information, current news and overviews of new treatments and tests and much more. With links to credible organizations such as the Mayo Clinic, the American Cancer Society and others, the site is updated regularly, and information is always accurate and very current. The site also offers interactive tutorials to help you learn about diagnostic tests, treatments and other topics.

National Cancer Institute- Anal Cancer <http://www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/types/anal>

National Cancer Institute- Colon and Rectal

<http://www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/types/colon-and-rectal>

The National Cancer Institute in the US is a leader in patient education initiatives, and their website provides an enormous amount of information relating to both anal and rectal cancers. Guides to treatment, diagnostic testing and other topics are easy to read, well-illustrated and the information is concise. Patients can also access supportive information such as learning how to cope with your disease, information for caregivers, explaining cancer to your children and family, and much more.

United Ostomy Association of Canada <http://www.ostomycanada.ca/>

The UOAC is a volunteer organization dedicated to helping people who have had an ostomy operation. Here you can find ostomy information, FAQ, a list of ostomy product manufacturers, an online chat room and more.

Streaming Video – Ostomy Information

****Please note – some streaming video tools require users to download specific multimedia programs in order for the video to work.**

Hollister Education Theatre <http://www.hollister.com/Canada/ostomy/resource/theatre.html>

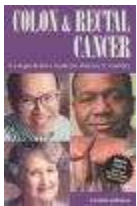
This link offers easy to understand videos about ostomies and ostomy pouching systems and the videos teach you how to use your ostomy system and how to manage your surgery

Mount Sinai Hospital – In Control/Life After your Ostomy

<http://www.mountsinai.on.ca/care/ibd-for-patients/videos/video-in-control-life-after-your-ostomy>

These videos can be watched directly on the site or downloaded. Includes sections called “why was the surgery necessary”, “what can I expect after surgery”, “how do I empty and change my pouch”, and “what do I need to know for day-to-day living”. These videos combine informative tips with personal interviews that show how your life doesn’t need to change after an ostomy procedure.

Books available from Central library, St. Catharines:



Colon & rectal cancer : a comprehensive guide for patients & families / Lorraine Johnston, O'Reilly, Pub. date: 2000, Call No.: 616.994347 Joh

A detailed guide to learning about rectal cancer. Information about diagnosis, treatment, adjusting to life with an ostomy, coping with symptoms, and more. Stories from patients and survivors offer tips and guidance for dealing with this disease.

Books/videos they may be able to help you find:

The official patient’s sourcebook on anal cancer: a revised and updated directory for the internet age / James N. Parker, Philip N. Parker

This is a very comprehensive collection of resources, links and information about anal cancer. Highlights include how to research your treatment options, medications, clinical trials and much more. Some patients might be overwhelmed by the amount of information presented, but it is still a very useful resource, and one that can be used as a reference throughout treatment and recovery.