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An update in the management of rectal cancer

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Colorectal cancer is the third most commonly diagnosed malignancy and the fourth leading cause of cancer death in the world with a projected global increased trend of disease by 60% over the next few decades. 70% of these arise in the colon and 30% in the rectum. The vast majority of these are adenocarcinomas. Primary rectal squamous cell carcinomas, which are very rare, can be difficult to distinguish from anal cancers and are treated according to the same approach as anal cancer, with initial chemoradiotherapy (radiotherapy with concurrent fluoropyrimidine chemotherapy) rather than surgery. The optimal approach to treating rectal adenocarcinoma depends on a number of factors, of which the location in the rectum and the extent of local disease are key determinants. For some patients with limited invasive cancer in a polyp who have no adverse features, polypectomy alone may suffice. For others, who have locally extensive, fixed, bulky tumors or extensive nodal disease, induction chemoradiotherapy or induction chemotherapy followed by chemoradiotherapy may be pursued. An algorithmic approach to treating rectal cancer that is based on the pretreatment clinical staging evaluation for rectal cancer. will be presented. The role of neoadjuvant chemoradiotherapy for potentially resectable adenocarcinomas, adjuvant therapy after resection of primary rectal adenocarcinoma, staging and the staging workup, pretreatment local staging evaluation, surgical principles, and recommendations for posttreatment surveillance will be discussed. Recent advances in rectal cancer including no surgery, minimal surgery or minimally invasive surgery will also be explored as newer options in selected patients with rectal cancer.

Biography

Selliah Kanthan is a Professor in the Division of General Surgery at the College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan, Canada. He is a General Surgery Consultant with a focused interest in colorectal surgery. He has published more than 75 peer reviewed manuscripts that are indexed in PubMed/Google Scholar and serves as an Editorial Board Member in various journals. He is an active Clinician Teacher and continues to participate and present at various national and international meetings with more than 100 conference abstract presentations to his credit.