

Friends and supporters of ACPMP have made research grant awards possible through many diverse efforts, large and small.

**HOLD A FUNDRAISER** or other programs in your area. Raising money to fund additional research is critical to finding a cure.

**ORGANIZE A WALK**, run, golf tournament, bake sale, auction or any fundraising event. We'll provide an event-specific website and other assistance.

**VOLUNTEER YOUR CREATIVITY AND NEW IDEAS.** Contact us at [info@acpmp.org](mailto:info@acpmp.org).

**DONATE.** Every contribution helps.

**EDUCATE.** If you are in the medical community, conduct a grand rounds, hold a symposium, teach other medical specialists in your area or educate your patients.

**WHAT CAN YOU DO. THERE ARE MANY WAYS YOU CAN HELP, WHETHER YOU ARE AN INDIVIDUAL OR AFFILIATED WITH AN ORGANIZATION.**



Both overall survival time and disease-free survival time have increased due to the remarkable work of dedicated researchers and clinical specialists, yet a cure has not been found. More work is still needed. Help this important effort continue. Join the fight to find a cure along with ACPMP.

Visit [www.acpmp.org](http://www.acpmp.org) today to learn more.

**JOIN THE FIGHT. IN THE LAST SEVERAL YEARS, OUTCOMES HAVE IMPROVED FOR MANY APPENDIX CANCER/PMP PATIENTS.**

**WHO WE ARE. ACPMP IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION FOUNDED BY A COMMUNITY OF INDIVIDUALS AFFECTED BY PMP AND RELATED CANCERS.**

Created in 2008, and organized as a 501 (c)3 charitable organization, the primary mission of ACPMP is to fund research to find a cure for Appendix Cancer, PMP and related peritoneal surface malignancies. Currently there is little federal funding devoted to Appendix Cancer/PMP research.

ACPMP also seeks to educate and inform the medical and patient communities about ACPMP in an effort to spur early, accurate and effective diagnosis and treatment.

ACPMP uniquely supports promising research worldwide. Scientists and medical researchers from the U.S. and around the world participate in our highly competitive evaluation and grant process.

**RESEARCH.** Since 2009, ACPMP has successfully raised enough money to award almost \$1 million in grants to researchers around the world. The Grant Program is administered by the United States National Organization of Rare Disorders (NORD) [www.rarediseases.org](http://www.rarediseases.org).

**EDUCATION.** ACPMP holds patient and practitioner symposia and provides other information, materials and programs for professionals, patients and lay people.

ACPMP is an all volunteer organization comprised of people whose lives have been impacted by peritoneal surface malignancies. We are grateful to our founder Lisa Luciano whose mission to improve patient outcomes through research and education inspires our work every day.

**THE ACPMP RESEARCH FOUNDATION PROFESSIONAL ADVISORY BOARD**

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**TO FIND CLINICAL TRIALS RELATED TO APPENDIX CANCER/PMP AND PSM GO TO: [WWW.CLINICALTRIALS.GOV](http://WWW.CLINICALTRIALS.GOV)**

**ACPMP**

INFORM. FUND RESEARCH. CURE.

**THE ACPMP RESEARCH FOUNDATION**

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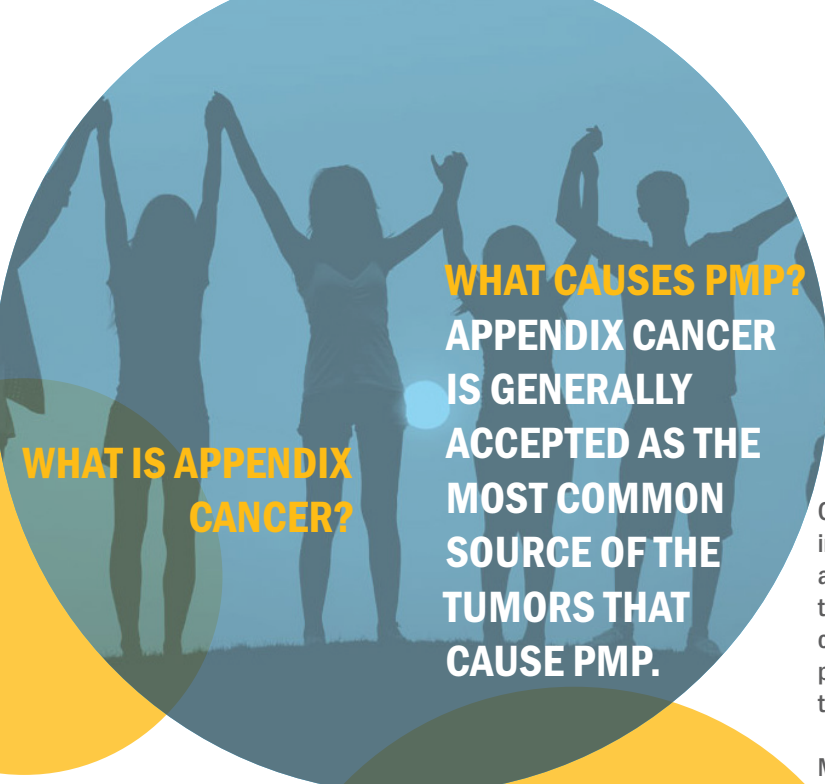
[youtube.com/pmpref](https://youtube.com/pmpref)

[inspire.com/groups/appendix-cancer-pseudomyxoma-peritonei-pmp](https://inspire.com/groups/appendix-cancer-pseudomyxoma-peritonei-pmp)



**INFORM. FUND RESEARCH. CURE.**

Appendix Cancer is cancer that starts in the cells lining the inside of the appendix. There are a number of different types of cancers of the appendix. The different types are determined by which type of cells in the appendix become cancerous and what the cells look like under the microscope. The different types are associated with different behaviors (e.g., likelihood of spreading to other organs or other parts of the body, rate of growth, ability to be completely removed with surgery, etc.) and therefore the types of treatment that are offered. Appendix cancers are the most common cause of pseudomyxoma peritonei (or "PMP"). See [www.acpmp.org/about-acpmp/](http://www.acpmp.org/about-acpmp/).



## WHAT IS APPENDIX CANCER?

**WHAT CAUSES PMP? APPENDIX CANCER IS GENERALLY ACCEPTED AS THE MOST COMMON SOURCE OF THE TUMORS THAT CAUSE PMP.**

Cells from the mucinous tumor in the appendix leak into the abdominal cavity and implant on the peritoneum or other abdominal organs. These tumors replicate and produce mucin, which then spreads throughout the abdomen.

Medical experts cite the ovaries, stomach, colon, pancreas and other abdominal organs as additional potential sites of origin.

The cause of the mucinous tumors is unknown.

## WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF PMP?

**MANY PATIENTS DO NOT EXHIBIT CLEARLY DEFINED SYMPTOMS EARLY IN THE DISEASE.**

When PMP reaches a relatively advanced stage, commonly reported symptoms include:

- Increased abdominal girth
- Bloating
- Pain/discomfort in the abdominal region
- Dull ache or sharp pain similar to appendicitis
- Hernia symptoms-often initially diagnosed as a hernia, especially in men
- Ovarian cyst or tumor-PMP is often initially misdiagnosed as ovarian cancer.
- Ascites (fluid buildup in the abdominal cavity)
- Infertility

For others, the therapy increases longevity or relieves some of the symptoms that adversely affect quality of life. ACPMP is dedicated to encouraging and funding research that further develops treatment options and to finding a cure for Appendix Cancer/PMP and other Peritoneal Surface Malignancies.

**IS PMP CURABLE? FOR SOME PATIENTS THE COMBINATION OF CYTOREDUCTIVE SURGERY + HIPEC PROVIDES A GOOD CHANCE FOR LONG TERM SURVIVAL, WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF COMPLETELY ELIMINATING THE DISEASE.**

## WHAT IS PMP?

**MANY PEOPLE, INCLUDING SOME PHYSICIANS, ARE NOT FAMILIAR WITH PMP, WHICH IS A RARE CONDITION INVOLVING MUCIN PRODUCING TUMORS IN THE ABDOMEN.**

PMP is the abbreviation for pseudomyxoma peritonei which is characterized by the presence of mucin (a jelly like substance) in the abdominal cavity and is often accompanied by mucin producing tumors. PMP also can be referred to as a "Peritoneal Surface Malignancy" or PSM. Most PMP tumors and mucin grow slowly, however, in some patients they may grow more quickly.

PMP reportedly is diagnosed in about 1500 people in the U.S. each year. Specialists believe it is significantly more common, although often misclassified or misdiagnosed.

Usually, PMP originates from a mucinous tumor in the appendix, but PMP frequently is misdiagnosed and confused with other conditions, including ovarian cancer. Correct diagnosis and treatment are important factors in obtaining optimal care.

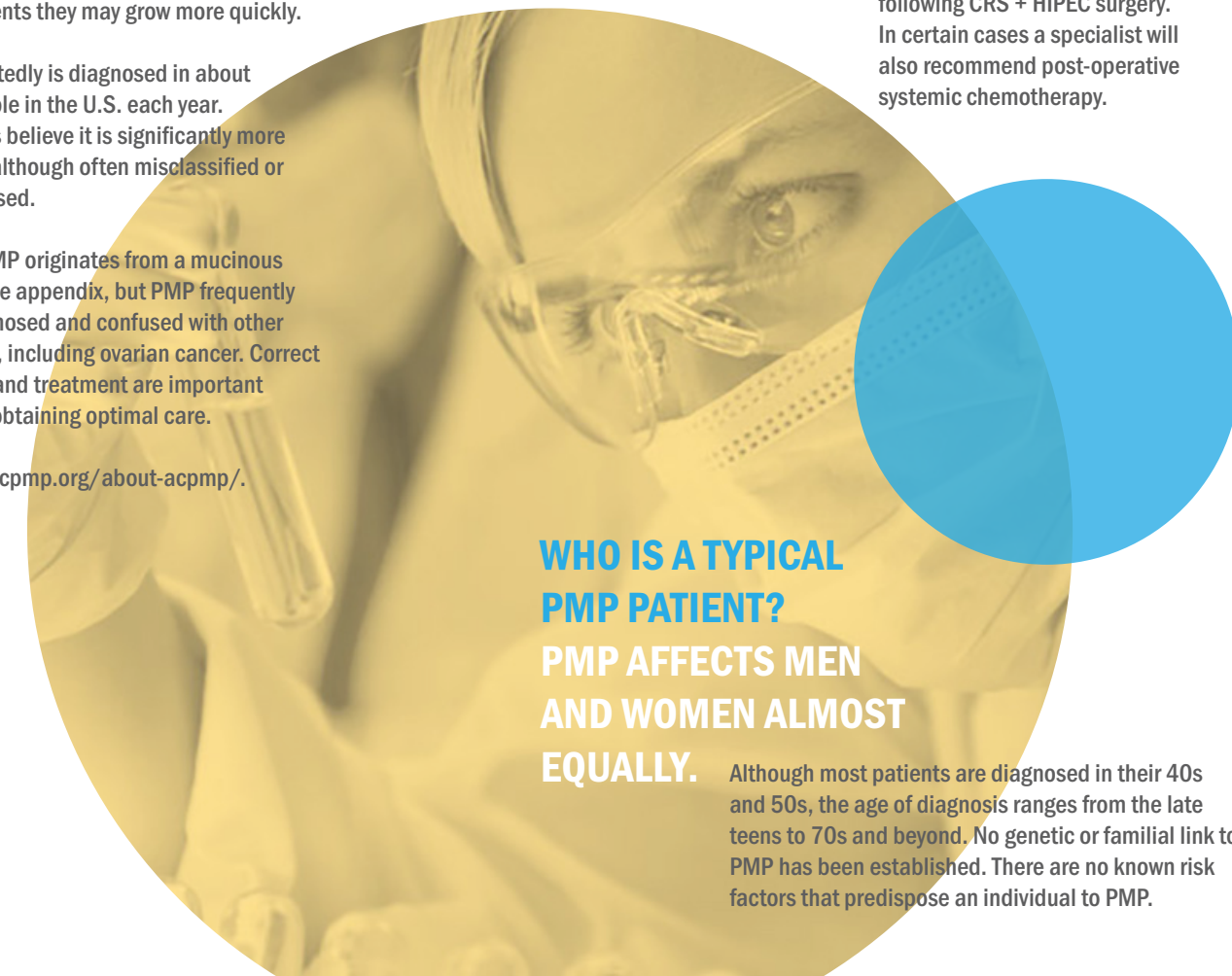
See [www.acpmp.org/about-acpmp/](http://www.acpmp.org/about-acpmp/).

## WHAT IS THE TREATMENT FOR PMP?

**THE STANDARD OF CARE TREATMENT FOR PMP, BY PMP SPECIALISTS, IS GENERALLY A COMBINATION THERAPY THAT CONSISTS OF CYTOREDUCTIVE SURGERY + HIPEC.**

The goal of cytoreductive surgery (CRS) is to remove tumors and affected tissues from the abdominal area. After surgery is completed, depending upon the level of tumor removal, the abdominal cavity is washed with heated intraperitoneal chemotherapy (HIPEC) to eradicate nonvisible or microscopic tumor cells.

Some specialists recommend early post-operative intraperitoneal chemo therapy (EPIC) for approximately 3-5 day following CRS + HIPEC surgery. In certain cases a specialist will also recommend post-operative systemic chemotherapy.



**WHO IS A TYPICAL PMP PATIENT? PMP AFFECTS MEN AND WOMEN ALMOST EQUALLY.**

Although most patients are diagnosed in their 40s and 50s, the age of diagnosis ranges from the late teens to 70s and beyond. No genetic or familial link to PMP has been established. There are no known risk factors that predispose an individual to PMP.