

Appendix Cancer & Pseudomyxoma Peritonei

Appendix Cancer

- Appendix cancer starts with a tumor in the cells inside of appendix
- Many different types of tumors
- Frequently spread inside abdominal cavity
- Depending on tumor type, can lead to condition called **peritoneal carcinomatosis** or **peritoneal surface malignancy**

Pseudomyxoma peritonei (PMP)

- Accumulation of mucinous tumor cells within abdomen/pelvis
- Spreads throughout surrounding surfaces

Incidence, Symptoms, Diagnosis

2 in a million

- **Cancers & tumors of the appendix are extremely rare**
- Average age of onset is 50-55 years
- Affects men and women equally

Symptoms

- Appendix cancer & PMP often misdiagnosed
- Abdominal pain, bloating, hernia, & ovarian cysts in women

Diagnosis

- Appendix cancer & PMP sometimes discovered during unrelated surgery
- CT Scan, MRI, diagnostic laparoscopy, tumor marker blood test

Treatment

Surgery &/or Systemic Chemo

- Dependent on stage and subtype, and whether localized or has spread
- When spread, intravenous chemotherapy and/or surgery

Cytoreductive Surgery (CRS) / Heated Intraperitoneal Chemotherapy (HIPEC)

- Indicated when tumors have spread throughout abdomen; chemo heated and applied directly
- "Mother Of All Surgeries"
- Provides survival in up to 90% of patients with low-grade pathology when properly diagnosed
- When misdiagnosed, patients less likely to benefit from CRS/HIPEC, some never offered it



**MISSION OF THE
APPENDIX CANCER
PMP RESEARCH
FOUNDATION:**

Fund research to improve treatment and find a cure for appendix cancer and pseudomyxoma peritonei, and educate patients and physicians about these diseases.