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## SURGICAL ONCOLOGY

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### HIPEC

#### What is HIPEC?

HIPEC is Heated (Hyperthermal) Intraperitoneal Chemotherapy. This is when a chemotherapy drug is administered directly into your abdominal cavity during surgery. The drugs most often used are Mitomycin and Cisplatin.

#### Why is this right for me?

Your surgeon and oncologist believe you will benefit from this surgery. It will deliver chemotherapy directly to the cancer in your abdomen. After cytoreduction, (removing any visible tumor) the chemo can be given in a higher concentration than through IV chemo. The goal is to kill the cancer cells. The chemo put into the abdomen is removed before the surgery ends.

#### What are the side effects and recovery?

Most patients experience side effects from surgery rather than chemo. These are usually incision healing, pain, bowel function and changes to appetite, energy and daily function. Possible immediate surgical complications will be discussed with you by your surgeon. Recovery can take up to 6 months.

#### Surgery

Surgery is usually scheduled for 6 hours, although it may take more or less time. Your family will be updated on your progress while you are in surgery. After surgery, you will go to the ICU (Intensive Care Unit) for at least one first night for recovery.

#### Hospital Recovery

- The average hospital stay is 7-10 days
- You will have an IV in your arm. This may be needed for the duration of your hospital stay.
- You may have a tube inserted in your nose that goes to your stomach to prevent vomiting. This can be removed when your bowel function begins to return.
- You will have a catheter in your bladder until you are more awake, alert and able to urinate.
- You may have a drain tube (JP drain) coming out of your skin near the incision. This will help drain fluid away from the surgery site and prevent infection. The drain will be removed once the fluid being removed becomes minimal.
- You can be discharged from the hospital once your pain is controlled with pills instead of IV medications, are passing gas and are able to eat and drink.
- Most patients will have visiting nurses come visit them at home.
- Some patients need physical therapy to help them rebuild strength.
- You will receive printed discharge instructions from the hospital with information about incision care and what medications to take at home

**Post-Operative Appointment**

Please call the office at (269) 384-8663 to schedule a post-operative appointment once you have been discharged from the hospital and are back at home. We want to know that your pain is controlled and that your symptoms are managed. If you still have staples on your incision, they will be removed at your post-op appointment.

**Questions**

Please call anytime during normal business hours at (269) 384-8663 if you have any questions or concerns. Should you start running low on your medications, please call our office as soon as possible to notify us. Please do not wait until you are completely out.

**After Hours/Emergency**

Please call (269) 382-2500 and the answering service will contact your physician or whoever is taking call for your physician.