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# **SURGERY: PANCREATIC CANCER**

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# SURGICAL INTERVENTION FOR CANCER TREATMENT

- Primary Therapy
- Debulking
  - Full extent of cancer is not removed
  - Adjuvant therapy
- Palliative
  - pain and symptom management
- Disease management
  - Staging
  - Restoration

# OTHER SURGICAL MODALITIES

- **Cryosurgery**

This surgery technique uses extremely cold temperatures to kill cancer cells. Cryosurgery is used most often with skin cancer and cervical cancer.

- **Laser surgery**

This technique uses beams of light energy instead of instruments to remove very small cancers, to shrink or destroy tumors, or to activate drugs to kill cancer cells.

- **Electrosurgery**

This technique uses electrical current to kill cancer cells.

- **Microscopically controlled surgery (Mohs Surgery)**

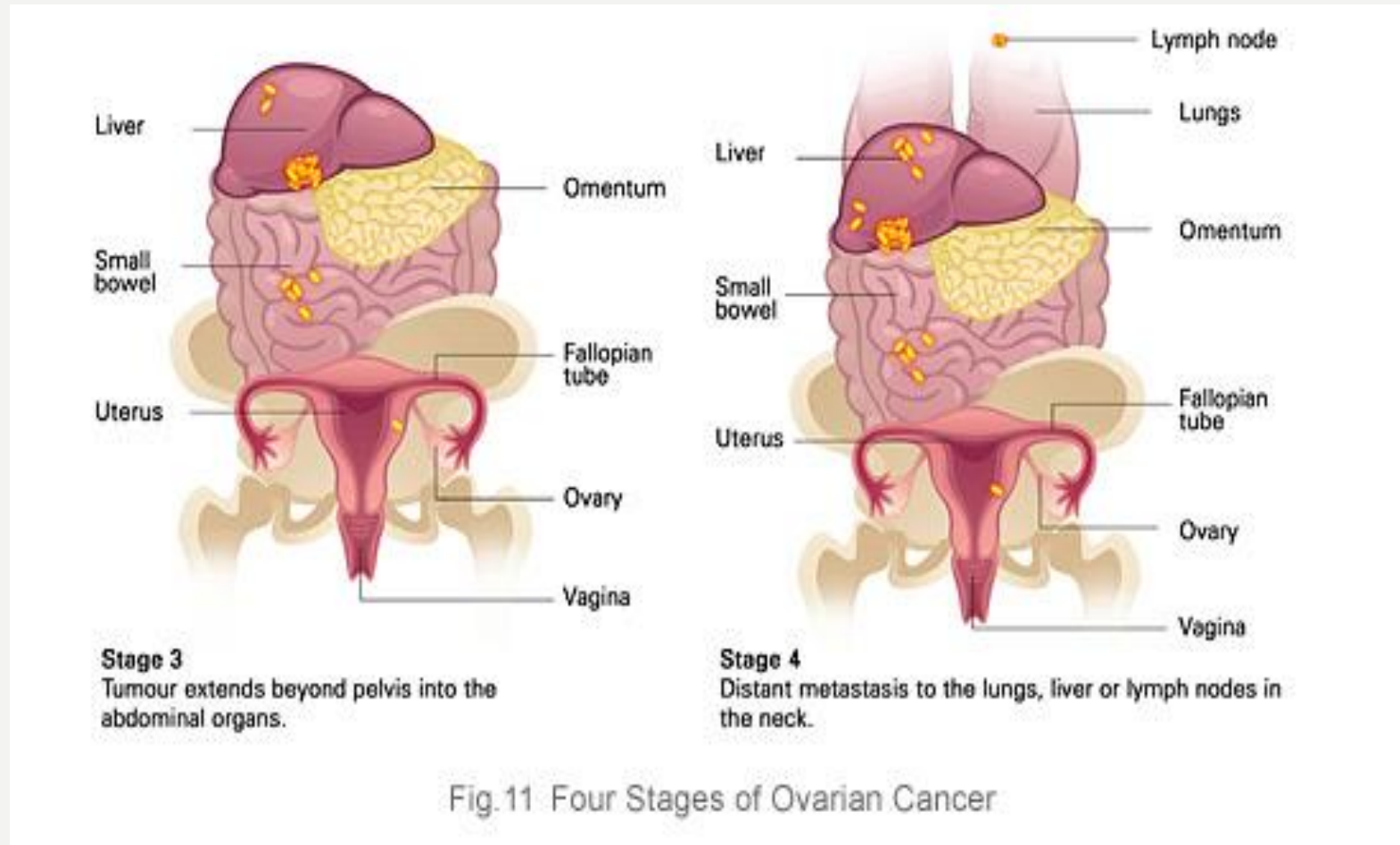
This surgery is useful when cancer affects delicate parts of the body, such as the eye. Layers of skin are removed and examined microscopically until cancerous cells cannot be detected.

# SURGERY IN CANCER

- Primary Therapy
- 90% of breast cancer patients
- >95% of colorectal cancer patients
- <50% in metastatic disease

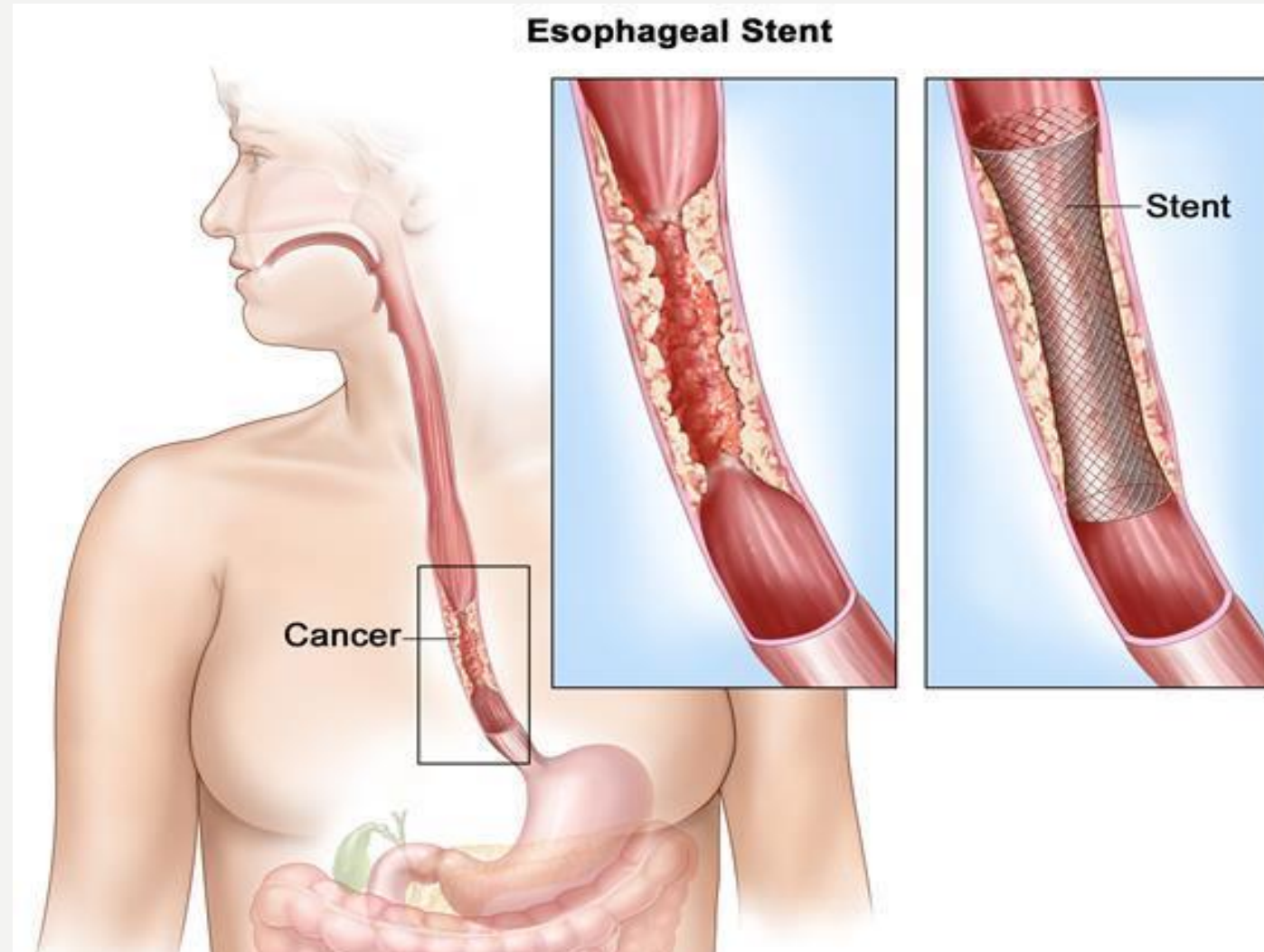
# SURGERY IN CANCER

- **Debulking**



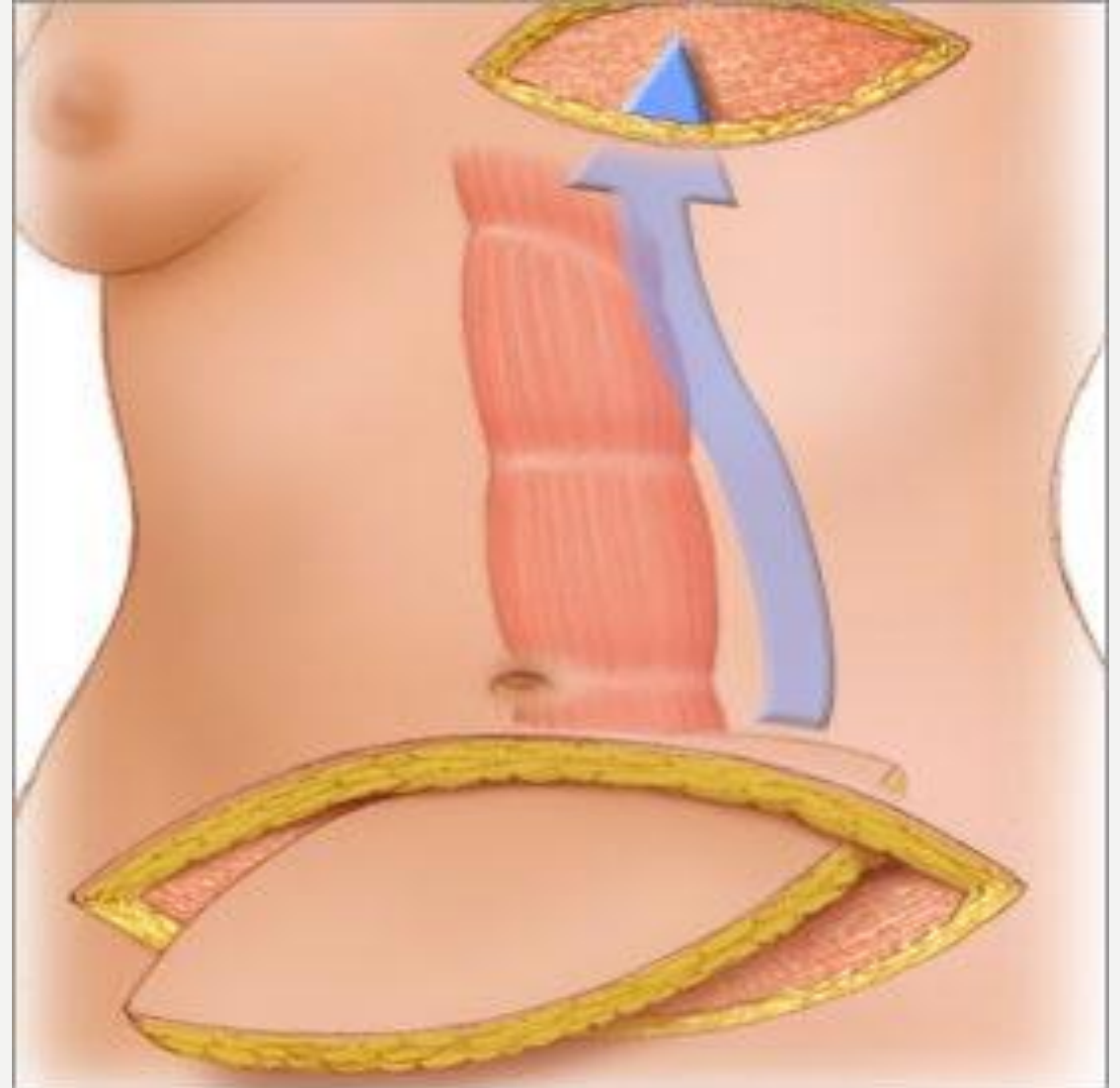
# SURGERY IN CANCER

- Palliative



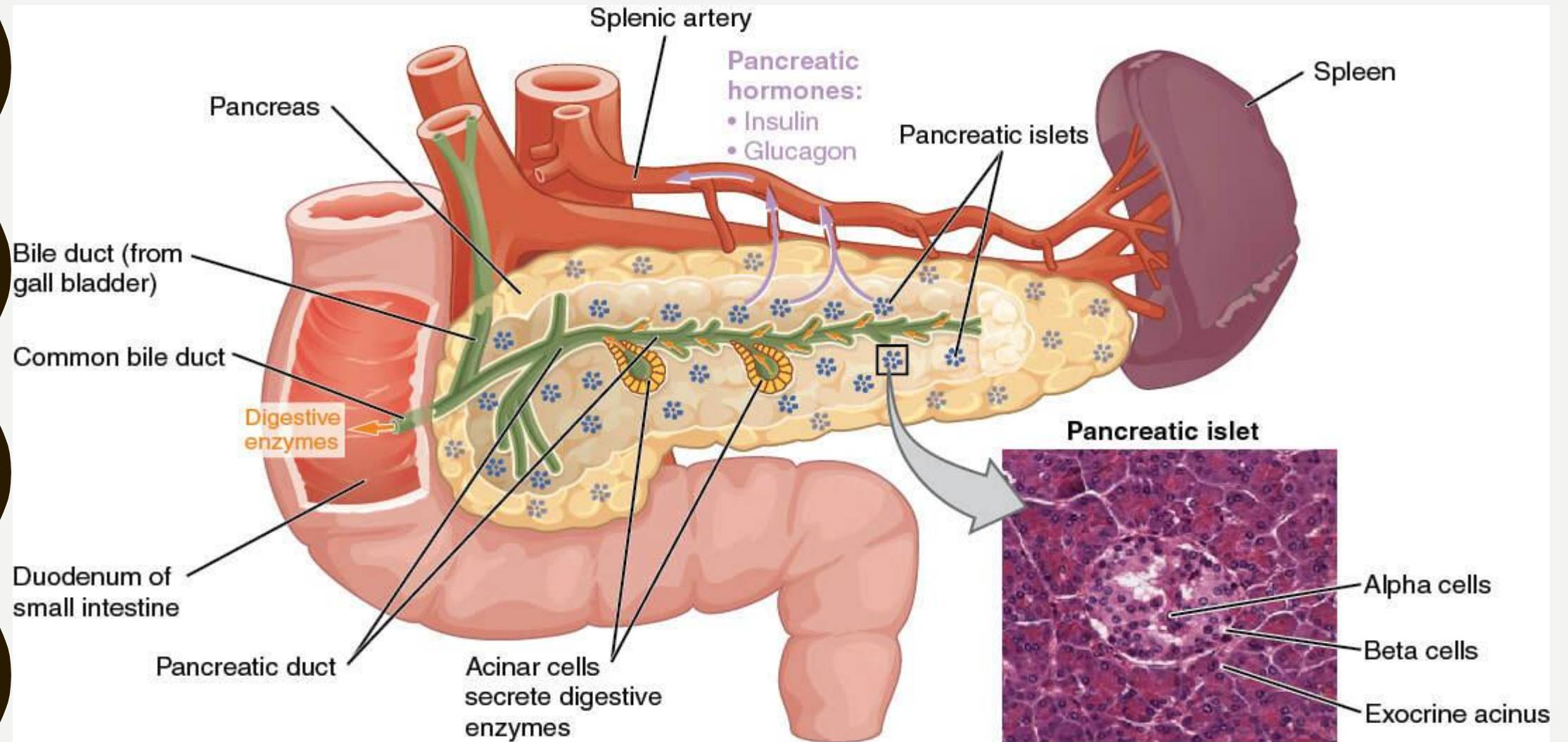
# SURGERY IN CANCER

- **Disease management**
- **Restoration**





# PANCREATIC CANCER





# CASE STUDY: PANCREATIC CANCER

- **Risk Factors**

- **Smoking**
- **Obesity**
- **Western Diet**
- **Heavy alcohol use**
- **H. Pylori**
- **HBV, HCV**
- **DM**
- **Hereditary**
  - **Blood type**
  - **CF**

- 57K expected in 2020
- 3.2% all new cancers
- 47K expected deaths
- 7.8% deaths
- 5 year survival rate: 10%

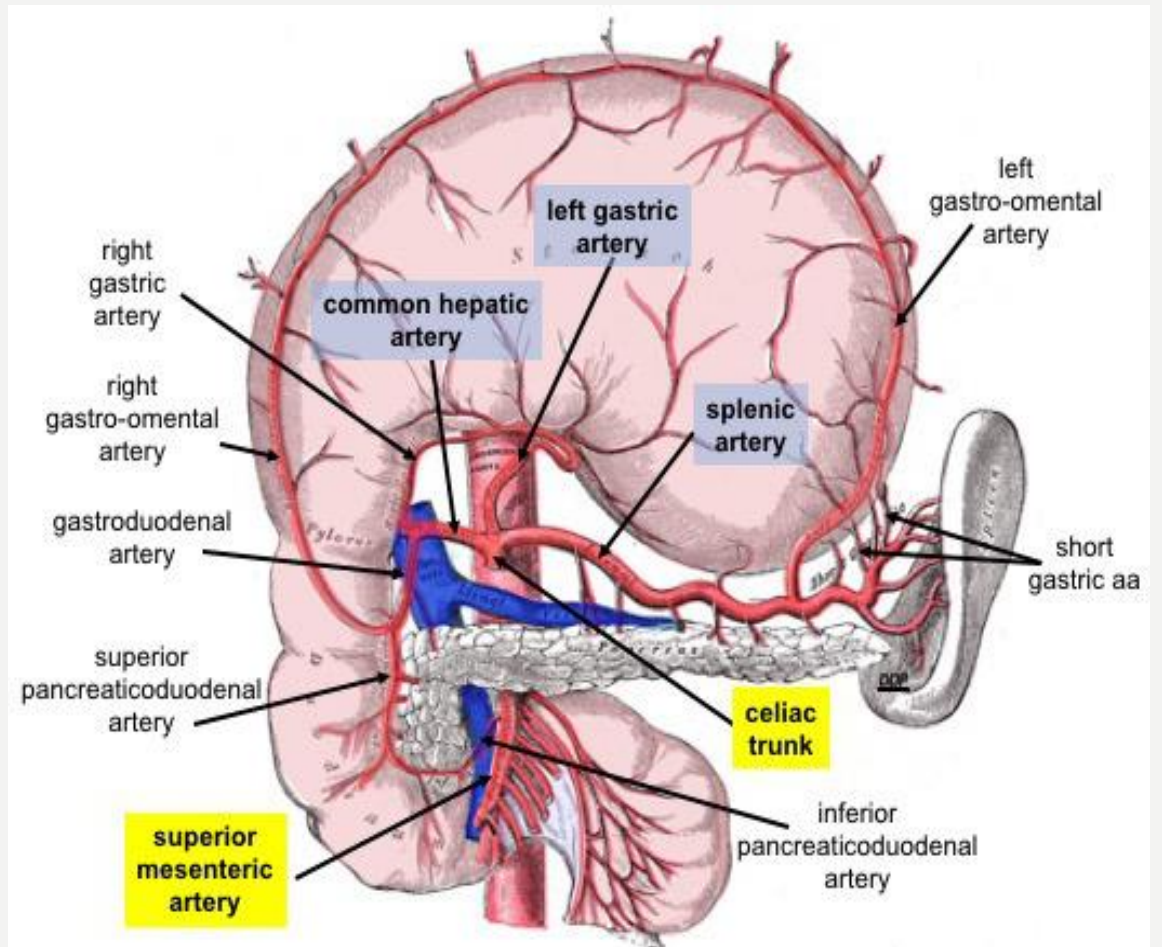
– [https://seer.cancer.gov/statfacts/html/pa\\_ncreas.html](https://seer.cancer.gov/statfacts/html/pa_ncreas.html)

# STAGING PANCREATIC CANCER

- **Resectable:** Pancreas only, without extension to arteries or veins 10-15% at diagnosis
- **Borderline Resectable:** Potentially resectable after chemotherapy and/or radiation
- **Locally Advanced:** Grown into area nearby arteries, veins or organs: not resectable 35-40% at diagnosis
- **Metastatic:** 45-55% at diagnosis

# WHAT IS UNRESECTABLE?

- Contact with the superior mesenteric artery (celiac) or vein
- Metastatic



# MAKING TUMORS RESECTABLE

- **Neoadjuvant Therapy**
  - Aggressive: FOLFIRINOX, FOLFOX, gemcitabine plus nabpaclitaxel
  - Less aggressive (PS  $\geq 2$ ): gemcitabine +/- nabpaclitaxel
- NEOLAP\* Trial (2019): 63% of initially unresectable, locally advanced cancers were able to proceed to complete resections.
- Gemcitabine/nabpaclitaxel +/- FOLFIRINOX: no difference

**\*Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy in Locally Advanced Pancreatic Cancer**

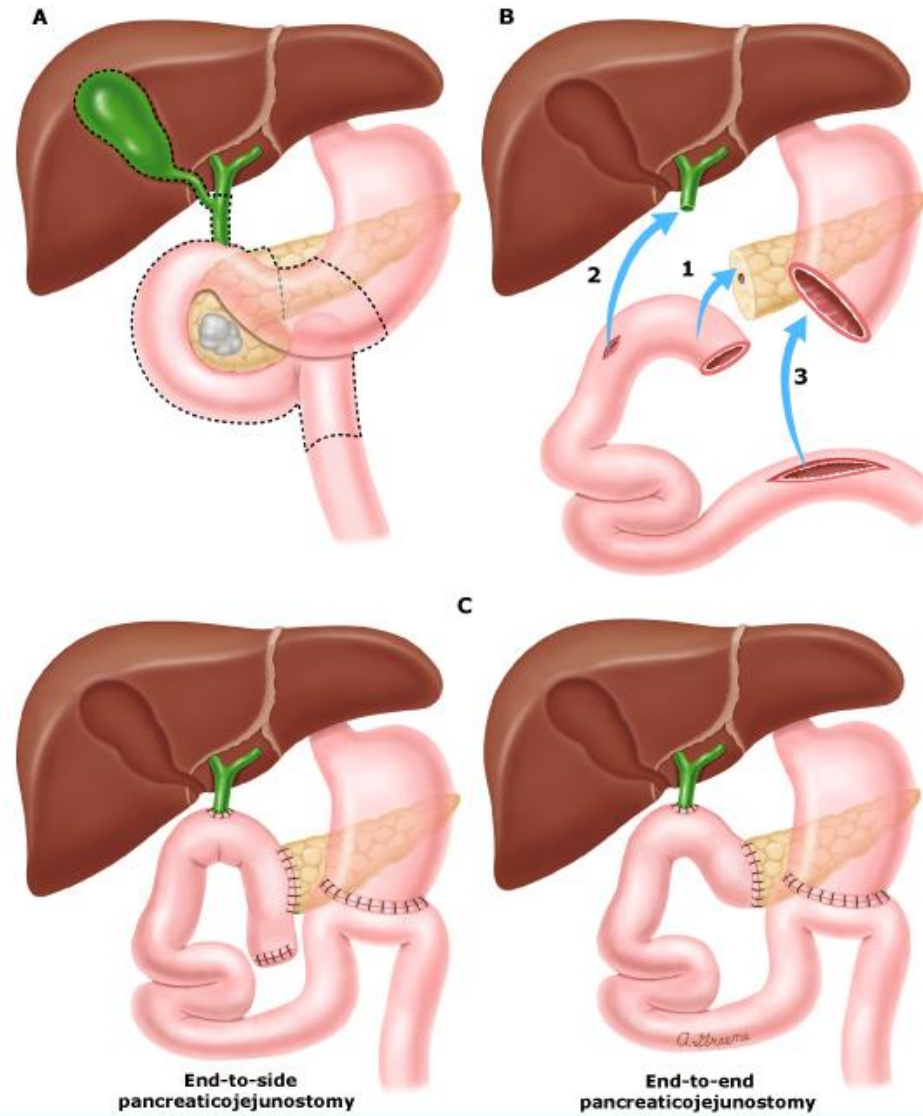
WHO'S THIS??



# SURGERY FOR HEAD OF THE PANCREAS TUMORS

- **Conventional (Whipple)**
  - Removal of pancreatic head, duodenum, 15 cm jejunum, common bile duct, gall bladder and partial gastrectomy
- **Pylorus-preserving**
  - Preserves gastric antrum, pylorus, 3-6 cm of duodenum

## Conventional pancreaticoduodenectomy (Whipple procedure; Polya)

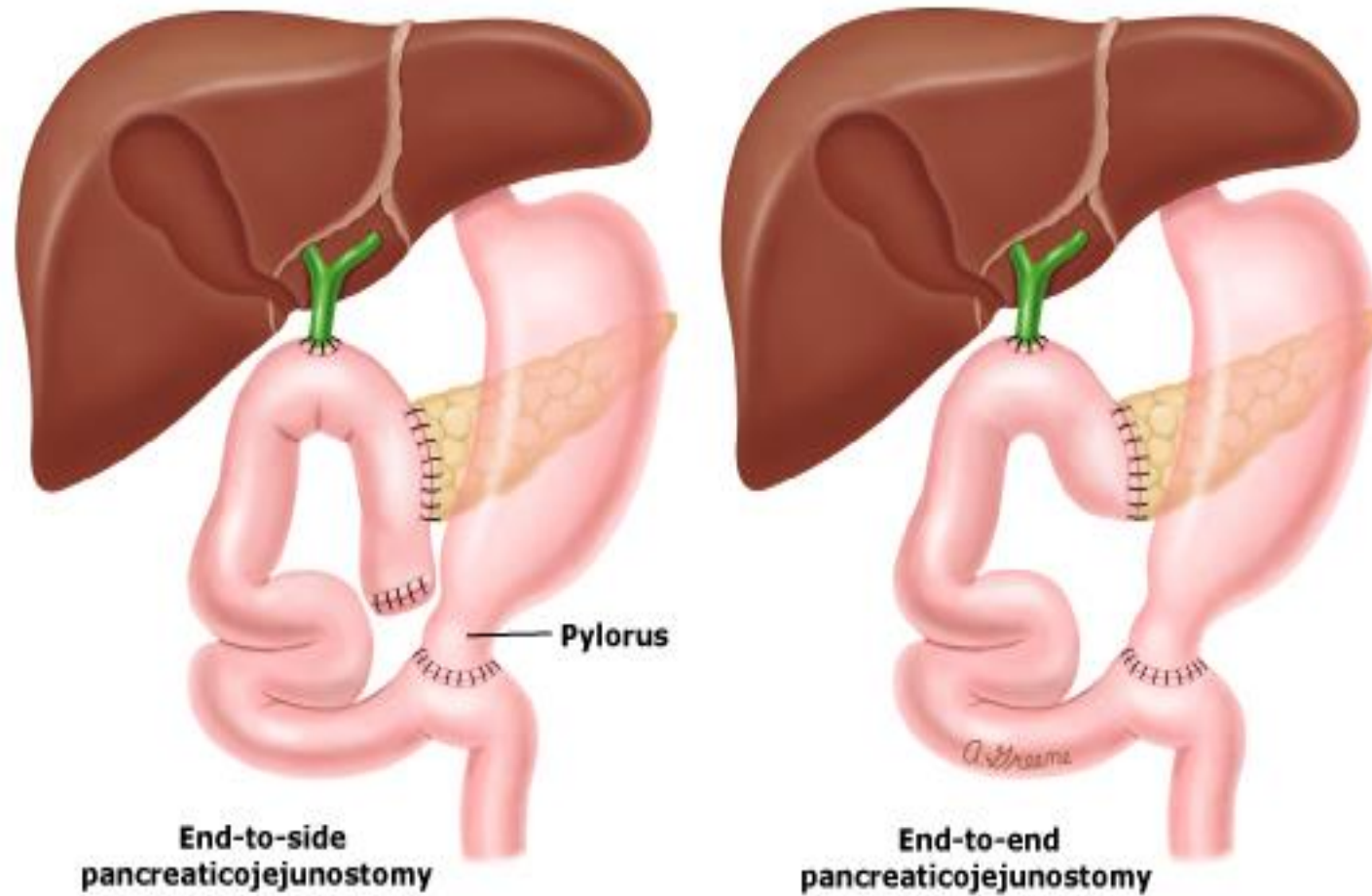


Polya refers to the style with which the gastrojejunostomy is constructed.

UpToDate®



## Pylorus-preserving pancreaticoduodenectomy



UpToDate®

# SURGERY FOR BODY OR TAIL OF PANCREAS

- Early diagnosis is rare
- Locally advanced or metastatic at presentation
- If feasible
  - Distal subtotal pancreatectomy and splenectomy
  - Total pancreatectomy

# CASE STUDY: WHIPPLE

- AB is a 75 year old male admitted after a 3 week history of jaundice, pruritus, pale stools and dark urine, vomiting after meals, anorexia
- Hx + alcohol abuse
- Stable angina and hypertension
- 53 kg, 170 cm which is an 18% weight loss in less than 6 months
- Labs: albumin 2.5; total bilirubin 206; direct bilirubin 173; GGT 356; alk phos 127
- Abdominal CT showed head of pancreas carcinoma with obstructive jaundice

# SYMPTOM CLUSTER

- “the simultaneous presence of two or more symptoms, which may or may not share etiology and are more strongly related to one another than other symptoms”

Burrell et al. (2018)

- Unresectable, locally advanced PC: Fatigue and anorexia
- Undergoing chemoradiation: Anxiety, depression, somatization, pain and fatigue
- Lung, advanced GI cancers, PC: Fatigue, pain and depression

# CASE STUDY: SURGERY

- AB underwent a Whipple Procedure
- Post Op: NG drainage, sips of water
- 2 days later allowed a diabetic fluid diet.. Held due to abdominal distention and vomiting
- Insulin sliding scale initiated
- 4 days later tolerating 1/3 of the diet, due to continued nausea and vomiting
- Once the fluid diet is tolerated, advance to full diabetic diet
- Continued to recover and discharged home: diabetic diet and insulin continued, multivitamins, folate and B12
- Pancreatic enzymes did not require supplementation

# POSTOPERATIVE SYMPTOM CLUSTERS

- Pain—gastrointestinal
  - Nausea, back pain, abdominal pain/cramping, poor appetite, constipation, trouble digesting food
- Mood
  - Anxiety, depression
- Digestive problems
  - Loss of bowel control, trouble digesting food
- Fatigue—nutritional problems
  - Weight loss, change in taste, dry mouth, fatigue
- Jaundice
  - Nausea, jaundice

# POSTOPERATIVE CARE

- Immediate Post Op:

- Site
- -color, integrity, drainage
- Hemorrhage
- Abscess
- Obstruction
- Electrolyte imbalance/
- Dehydration
- GI symptoms: N/V/D/Bloating

- Assessment and Patient Teaching:

- Skin care
- Psychological support
- Nutrition
- S/S Dumping Syndrome
  - 30-60 minutes



# NURSING CONSIDERATIONS IN SURGERY

- Delayed gastric emptying
- Pancreatic Fistula
- Malabsorption
- Onset of Diabetes Mellitus (50%)
- Vitamin and Mineral deficiencies
  - Calcium, zinc, iron, B12, A, D, E, K

# POSTOPERATIVE SCENARIO: AB

- Follow up reveals continued DM, decreased N/V and increased weight
- Maintain low fat, diabetic diet focusing on small meals throughout the day
- Further monitoring for pancreatic cancer and possible chemotherapy and/or radiation

# REFERENCES

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