LEARNING OBJECTIVES

On completion of the chapter, the reader will be able to:

1. Identify and discuss clinical risk factors associated with the development of colon cancer.
2. Recommend dietary and lifestyle interventions that patients can implement to decrease the risk of colon cancer.
3. Explain the role of inherited genetic mutations in the development of colon cancer.
4. Discuss the role of aspirin and nonsteroidal antiinflammatory drugs in the general population as chemopreventive agents for colorectal cancer.
5. Compare advantages and disadvantages of available screening modalities for early detection of colorectal cancer.
6. Describe the common signs and symptoms associated with colon cancer.
7. Explain the various laboratory and imaging studies used to establish a treatment plan in a patient diagnosed with colon cancer.
8. Cite the staging system used in colon cancer, and explain the impact that stage of disease has on prognosis and treatment of individuals with colon cancer.
9. Provide the rationale for inclusion of radiation therapy into the treatment plan for operable rectal cancer.
10. Compare the side-effect profiles of individual and combination chemotherapy regimens for colorectal cancer.
11. Evaluate the appropriateness of selected pharmacologic agents for the treatment of colorectal cancer for an individual given patient-specific information.
12. Formulate an appropriate treatment plan for the adjuvant treatment of colon or rectal cancer for an individual given patient-specific information.
13. Select an appropriate initial treatment plan for the treatment of potentially curable metastatic colorectal cancer for an individual given patient-specific information.
14. Propose an appropriate treatment plan for the treatment of metastatic colon or rectal cancer for an individual given patient-specific information.
15. Interpret pharmacogenetic test results that predict response to therapy and utilize them to personalize pharmacotherapy for colorectal cancer.
16. Prepare appropriate patient-specific counseling information to be given to a patient prescribed a particular chemotherapy regimen.
17. Recommend patient-specific therapy for individuals who have relapsed following prior treatments for colorectal cancer.
18. Formulate a monitoring plan for a patient on a given chemotherapy regimen based on patient-specific information and the prescribed regimen.