## Standard 5.7: Total Mesorectal Excision

### Operation

Total mesorectal excision (TME) is performed for mid and low rectal tumors, resulting in **complete** or **near-complete** TME.

- Keep fascia propria of rectum intact, operate in plane between rectum and presacral fascia
- **Ensures negative margins**
- **Protects neurovascular structures**

### Maintain the ‘Holy Plane’

- **Keep fascia propria of rectum intact, operate in plane between rectum and presacral fascia**
- **Ensures negative margins**
- **Protects neurovascular structures**

### Pathology Documentation

Quality of TME documented in synoptic report:

- **Complete**
- **Near-Complete**
- **Incomplete**

### When?

- **2021: Implementation**
- **2022 site visits:** 70% Compliance

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