Total Mesorectal Excision

The American College of Surgeons (ACS) Cancer Surgery Standards Program offers many other resources for Commission on Cancer (CoC) Standard 5.7, including:

- ACS Commission on Cancer (CoC) Operative Standards Toolkit, featuring webinars, slides, summaries, and FAQs
- CoC Standard 5.7 compliance flowchart
- YouTube video synopsis
- SurgOnc Today® podcast
- JACS editorial on 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’

Pathology Documentation

Quality of TME documented in synoptic report:

- Complete
- Near-Complete
- Incomplete

When?

2021: Implementation

2023 site visits: 80% Compliance