

Anorectal Physiology Lab

The UMass Memorial Anorectal Physiology Laboratory, a state-of-the-art facility located at 67 Belmont Street on the Memorial Campus, is Central Massachusetts' only resource for advanced studies of the pelvic floor and provides essential information in the evaluation and management of patients with rectal and anal cancers.

Pelvic floor disorders include conditions such as fecal incontinence, constipation and rectal prolapse. Fecal incontinence alone affects at least seven percent of adults, with a projected increase as the population ages. The lab utilizes the latest diagnostic technologies including three-dimensional endorectal ultrasound. Assessment may include anorectal manometry and pudendal nerve testing.

In addition to diagnosis, our experienced staff is trained in biofeedback and electrogalvanic stimulation and can initiate a treatment plan at the first visit. Testing can be performed independently, or in consultation with one of our four board-certified colon and rectal surgeons.

UMass Memorial Health Care is the largest not-for-profit health care system in Central Massachusetts with 1,500 physicians and more than 12,000 employees. Our comprehensive network of care includes teaching hospitals, affiliated community hospitals, outpatient clinics, community-based physician practices, long-term care facilities, and home health, hospice, rehabilitation and mental health services. UMass Memorial is dedicated to promoting health and wellness in the community, and is proud to be the clinical partner of the University of Massachusetts Medical School.

Contributions and memorial gifts to UMass Memorial Health Care are deeply appreciated. For information, call the UMass Memorial Foundation at 508-856-5520 or e-mail to giving@umassmed.edu.

Division of General Surgery

UMass Memorial – Memorial Campus
67 Belmont Street, Worcester, MA 01605
Tel: 508-334-8195

Our Academic Partner



UMassMemorial

Colon and Rectal Surgery

*Comprehensive care ...
sensitive to patients' needs*



UMassMemorial

Colon and Rectal Surgery

Surgical specialists at UMass Memorial offer comprehensive care for patients suffering from diseases of the small bowel, colon and rectum. UMass Memorial surgeons provide the latest diagnostic and therapeutic services to deliver state-of-the-art care in a private, comfortable setting. Working collaboratively with other physician specialists, our colon and rectal surgeons are part of a multidisciplinary team of medical experts recognized for clinical as well as academic expertise.

Patient care services include:

- Anorectal conditions
 - Hemorrhoids
 - Fissures
 - Abscesses
 - Fistulas
- Inflammatory bowel disease
 - Chronic ulcerative colitis
 - Crohn's disease
- Diverticulitis
- Colonic, rectal, small bowel and anal neoplasms
 - Cancer
 - Polyps
 - Familial polyposis
- Endoscopy of the colon and rectum
 - Rigid and flexible sigmoidoscopy
 - Colonoscopy
 - Endoscopic polypectomy
- Anorectal physiology testing and management
 - Anal incontinence
 - Constipation
 - Diarrhea
 - Rectal prolapse

A Leader in Minimally Invasive Surgery

Laparoscopy

Minimally invasive colon and rectal surgery allows surgeons to view inside the body with clarity while live images are sent to monitors positioned in the operating room. UMass Memorial is breaking new ground in minimally invasive colon and rectal surgery, a growing national trend that translates into less strain on internal organs and the immune system, reduced need for pain medicine, smaller incisions, and shorter hospital stays. In laparoscopic-assisted colon resection, the abdomen is inflated with carbon dioxide gas, allowing the surgical team to insert laparoscopic instruments to aid in the resection. The superior magnification allows us to perform the resection and anastomosis with minimal tissue trauma.

Transanal Endoscopic Microsurgery

Traditionally, the only option available for low rectal tumors has been major abdominal surgery and possibly a permanent colostomy. With the introduction of transanal endoscopic microsurgery, transanal resection of benign and properly selected malignant lesions is possible. UMass Memorial is one



of the few medical centers in New England and only one of about 100 hospitals nationwide offering this technology. With enhanced clarity and magnification, our surgeons excise these lesions in a more exact fashion using some of the same instruments employed in laparoscopy. This superior magnification allows us to achieve clear margins, which is often a surrogate marker for recurrence. There

are no incisions because the procedure is performed transanally. There is minimal blood loss and no pain in the postoperative period. Patients often go home on the same day or on the first postoperative day.



The colon and rectal surgery team at UMass Memorial is, left to right, Janet McDade, NP; Karim Alavi, MD; Justin Maykel, MD; W. Brian Sweeney, MD; and Joshua Braveman, MD.

Certification by the American Board of Colon and Rectal Surgery

All surgeons performing colon and rectal surgery at UMass Memorial have completed accredited fellowship training programs in colon and rectal surgery as well as a general surgery residency. In addition to certification by the American Board of Surgery, our colon and rectal surgeons are certified by the American Board of Colon and Rectal Surgery. All members have specialized knowledge and skill in problems of the colon, rectum, anus and small bowel.

To receive more information about the program in colon and rectal surgery, call 508-334-8195.