

# FACTSHEET: GLOBAL COLON CANCER THAT HAS SPREAD TO THE LIVER

## Colon cancer is one of the most common cancers in the world

- Colon cancer is the third most common cancer with 1,360,602 new cases a year<sup>1</sup>
- Every hour 155 people are diagnosed with colon cancer<sup>1</sup>
- Of those affected, 45% are women and 55% are men<sup>1</sup>

## Colon cancer commonly spreads to the liver

- Approximately a quarter of people that are first diagnosed with colon cancer will already have secondary cancer that has spread to the liver<sup>2,3</sup>
- A further 25–35% of patients will go on to develop secondary liver cancer after their diagnosis of colon cancer<sup>2</sup>
- The outlook for patients with colon cancer that has spread to the liver is very poor, particularly for certain groups of patients, such as those with primary colon cancer that starts from the right side of the colon;<sup>4</sup>
- The majority of people with colon cancer that has spread to the liver (66–90%) will die from liver failure caused by liver tumors<sup>3, 5-7-6</sup>
- Estimates suggest that this could equate to as many as 457,966 deaths a year worldwide – that's 1,255 lives per day<sup>1, 3,5-7</sup>
- Only one in five patients will have liver tumors that can be removed by surgery
- Surgical removal (also known as resection) of the liver tumors currently provides the only realistic possibility of providing a cure for patients with tumors that have spread from the colon. However, approximately 20–30% of patients will have liver tumors that can be removed in this way<sup>8,9</sup>
- Of those patients that can be treated using resection, 15–67% (median 30%) have been reported to be alive after five years compared to 0–6% for patients who do not undergo surgery<sup>9</sup>
- In some cases the use of chemotherapy, biological drugs and/or Selective Internal Radiation Therapy (SIRT) can reduce the size of non-resectable liver tumors to make them resectable<sup>11-13</sup>
- A recent analysis by liver surgeons of radiological images from the SIRFLOX study concluded that a significantly greater percentage of patients treated first-line with SIR-Spheres® Y-90 microspheres were eligible to potentially curative liver surgery compared to those treated with chemotherapy alone<sup>14</sup>

## SIR-Spheres® Y-90 resin microspheres can extend life and may lead to potentially curative surgery in patients

- SIRT using SIR-Spheres® Y-90 resin microspheres is predominantly given to patients that are unresponsive to chemotherapy. In this setting, the therapy has been shown to extend life, and in some cases shrink liver tumors so much that they can be surgically removed. <sup>10-12</sup>
- SIR-Spheres® Y-90 resin microspheres are included as a Category 2A recommended treatment by the National Comprehensive Cancer Network® (NCCN®) Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology for colon cancer and rectal cancer.<sup>15</sup> This designation denotes that there is uniform consensus among the NCCN panel that Selective Internal Radiation Therapy (SIRT) with yttrium-90 microspheres is an appropriate option in patients with liver dominant, chemotherapy resistant colorectal disease (mCRC).
- SIR-Spheres Y-90 resin microspheres have a Pre-Market Approval (PMA) from the FDA and are indicated for the treatment of unresectable metastatic liver tumours from primary colorectal cancer with adjuvant intra-hepatic artery chemotherapy (IHAC) of FUDR (Floxuridine).

For more information please visit:

[www.sirtex.com](http://www.sirtex.com)

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