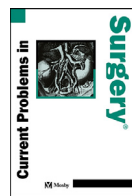


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Foreword

Peritoneal metastatic spread occurs with a diverse group of malignancies that traditionally have been managed individually according to the characteristics of the primary tumor. Recently, however, the concept of a more unified approach to peritoneal surface malignancies has begun to emerge. Although still controversial, the evidence supporting such an approach is accumulating. In this issue of *Current Problems in Surgery*, Dr. John Stewart from the University of Illinois in Chicago and colleagues from around the country provide an insightful perspective on this topic entitled, "The Evolving Management of Peritoneal Surface Malignancies." They begin with a general introduction. A subsequent section addresses the impact of surgical approaches on patient-reported outcomes. Data from randomized trials in colorectal cancer is then addressed in considerable detail. This is followed by a discussion of the data on management of appendiceal cancer with peritoneal spread. The role of hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy is then addressed in mesothelioma, ovarian carcinoma, and gastric cancer. A subsequent section deals with the role of surgery in small bowel tumor carcinomatosis. They finish with discussions of approaches to these tumors in the pediatric population and the role of immunotherapy. Their balanced perspective is both informative and insightful. Their arguments are convincing and may have major implications for the management of these tumors in general. This superb treatise is a significant addition to the literature on a controversial topic.

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Editor in Chief