

**Mayo Clinic Medical Edge**

***Treating Rectal Cancer***

1:00

**Log**

**Audio**

<p><b>Intro with music</b></p>	<p>GIVING YOU THE EDGE ON HEALTHY LIVING, HERE'S MAYO CLINIC'S MEDICAL EDGE.</p>
	<p>COLON CANCER AND RECTAL CANCER ARE BASICALLY THE SAME DISEASE. PHYSICALLY, THE DIFFERENCE IS A MATTER OF INCHES.</p>
<p><b>Richard Devine, M.D.</b></p>	<p>"THE RECTUM IS ACTUALLY THE LAST FOOT OF THE COLON."</p>
	<p>BUT THAT DIFFERENCE BECOMES MORE SIGNIFICANT WHEN IT COMES TO TREATING RECTAL CANCER AS OPPOSED TO COLON CANCER.</p>
<p><b>Dr. Devine</b></p>	<p>"IF IT'S A VERY, VERY EARLY CANCER, A STAGE 1, SOMETIMES WE CAN JUST EXCISE IT LOCALLY."</p>
	<p>UNFORTUNATELY, THAT'S</p>

	USUALLY NOT THE CASE. MAYO CLINIC DR. RICHARD DEVINE SAYS MOST PATIENTS WITH RECTAL CANCER WILL FIRST UNDERGO CHEMOTHERAPY AND RADIATION THERAPY.
<b>Dr. Devine</b>	“WE RARELY DO THAT FOR COLON CANCERS.”
	WHY?
<b>Dr. Devine</b>	“RECTAL CANCERS HAVE A HIGHER INCIDENCE OF LOCAL RECURRENCE, IN THE PELVIC AREA WHERE THE CANCER IS. WE FOUND THAT PREOPERATIVE CHEMORADIATION DOES DECREASE LOCAL RECURRENCE.”
	AND INCREASES YOUR CHANCES OF BEATING THE DISEASE.
	FOR MORE INFORMATION, TALK TO YOUR DOCTOR OR VISIT MAYOCLINIC.ORG. I'M VIVIEN WILLIAMS.