

Mayo Clinic Medical Edge

What is the Pancreas?

1:00

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Audio

<p>Intro with music</p>	<p>GIVING YOU THE EDGE ON HEALTHY LIVING, HERE'S MAYO CLINIC'S MEDICAL EDGE.</p>
	<p>IT SITS TUCKED, ALMOST HIDDEN, BEHIND THE STOMACH. BUT THE PANCREAS DOESN'T TAKE A BACK SEAT TO ANYONE.</p>
<p>Suresh Chari, M.D.</p>	<p>"THE PANCREAS IS ALMOST ESSENTIAL FOR LIFE."</p>
	<p>DR. SURESH CHARI IS A MAYO CLINIC GASTROENTEROLOGIST. HE SAYS THE PANCREAS HAS TWO VERY IMPORTANT JOBS. ONE IS TO PRODUCE PANCREATIC ENZYMES.</p>
<p>Dr. Chari</p>	<p>"IF YOU DIDN'T HAVE PANCREATIC ENZYMES, YOU WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO DIGEST YOUR FOOD."</p>
	<p>THE SECOND JOB MIGHT BE MORE</p>

	FAMILIAR, ESPECIALLY IF YOU'RE DIABETIC.
Dr. Chari	"IF YOU DIDN'T HAVE A PANCREAS, YOU WOULDN'T HAVE INSULIN AND YOUR BLOOD GLUCOSE WOULD BE COMPLETELY OUT OF CONTROL."
	THANKFULLY, PANCREATIC PROBLEMS ARE NOT ALL THAT COMMON. BUT WHEN THEY DO OCCUR THEY CAN BE SERIOUS, EVEN DEADLY. PANCREATITIS IS AN INFLAMMATION AND SWELLING OF THE ORGAN THAT CAN RESULT IN A NUMBER OF SYMPTOMS. PANCREATIC CANCER ON THE OTHER HAND RARELY RESULTS IN ANY SYMPTOMS UNTIL IT'S VERY ADVANCED MAKING IT A VERY DEADLY DISEASE.
	FOR MORE INFORMATION, TALK TO YOUR DOCTOR OR VISIT MAYOCLINIC.ORG . I'M VIVIEN WILLIAMS.