

## GLOSSARY OF COMMON TERMS

### TREATMENTS

**Chemotherapy** (*kee-moh-THEH-ra-pee*)  
Medicines or drugs used to treat cancer.  
Commonly referred to as “chemo.”

**Fluorouracil** (*floor-oh-YOOR-a-sil*)  
A chemotherapy injection that stops cells from making DNA and may kill cancer cells. It is a type of antimetabolite and is also known as “5-FU.”

**Gemcitabine** (*gem-SITE-a-bean*)  
A kind of chemotherapy that stops cells from making DNA and may kill cancer cells. It is a type of antimetabolite.

**Leucovorin** (*LOO-koh-VOR-in*)  
A type of folic acid that is a chemoprotective and chemosensitizing agent.

**Oxaliplatin** (*ok-SA-lih-pla-tin*)  
A type of platinum compound that damages the cell’s DNA and may kill cancer cells.

**Paclitaxel** (*PA-klih-TAK-sil*)  
A drug used to treat certain types of cancer by stopping the growth of cancer cells.

### Radiation Therapy

The use of high-energy radiation from x-rays, gamma rays, neutrons, protons, and other sources to kill cancer cells and shrink tumors.

### LABORATORY TESTS

#### Absolute Neutrophil (NOO-troh-fil) Count (ANC)

A measure of a type of white blood cell in the blood. Neutrophils help the body fight infection, and the lower a person’s ANC is, the higher the risk is of getting an infection.

**Hemoglobin** (*HEE-moh-GLOH-bin*)  
A protein inside red blood cells that carries oxygen from the lungs to tissues and organs in the body and carries carbon dioxide back to the lungs.

#### Liver Function Tests

A blood test to measure levels of certain substances released by the liver. High or low levels can be a sign of liver disease.

### Neutropenia (*noo-troh-PEE-nee-uh*)

A decrease in the number of white blood cells (neutrophils) that respond quickly to an infection. Having neutropenia increases a person’s risk of getting an infection.

### Platelet

Disc-shaped cell that helps form blood clots to slow or stop bleeding and to help wounds heal.

### Thrombosis (*throm-BOH-sis*)

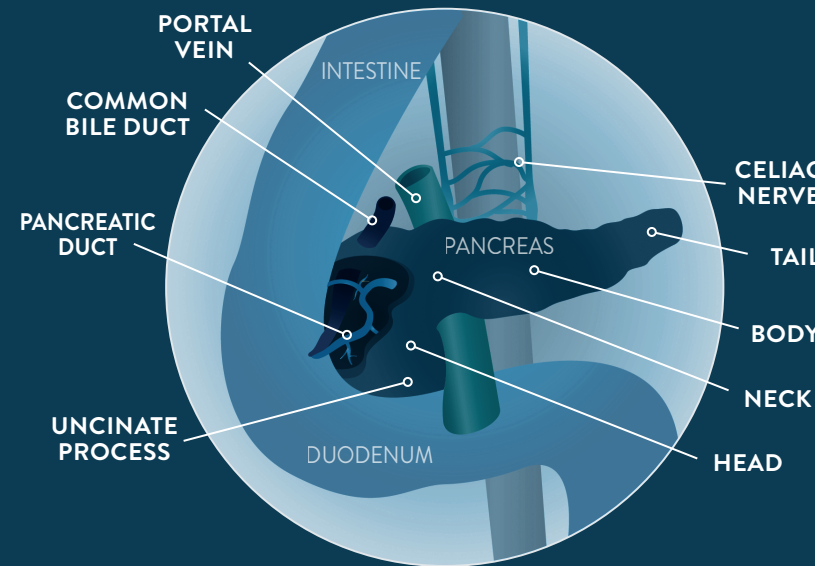
The formation or presence of a thrombus (blood clot) inside a blood vessel.

### Tumor Marker

A substance found in tissue, blood, bone marrow, or other body fluids that may be a sign of cancer or certain noncancer conditions.

### White Blood Cell Count

The number of white blood cells in a blood sample, determined through a laboratory blood test.



### CONTACT YOUR CARE TEAM IMMEDIATELY IF YOU HAVE:

Fever or chills

Confusion, inability to focus, or feeling lost or nervous

Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or constipation not relieved with current medications

Worsening abdominal pain

Rash or swelling

Chest pain or shortness of breath

## METASTATIC PANCREATIC CANCER SYMPTOM JOURNAL

This symptom journal is to help you better understand and manage your disease in partnership with your healthcare provider. Use this symptom journal on the days when you notice changes in pain, tiredness, or eating, and as a reference between office visits.

