



# **The Intelligent Patient Guide to Colorectal Cancer: All You Need to Know to Take and Active Part in Your Treatment**

*Michael E. Pezim, David A. Owen*

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**INTELLIGENCE FOR THE FIGHT AGAINST CANCER** The second edition of the book on colorectal cancer (colon and rectal cancer) in the Intelligent Patient Guide series, national best-selling books for cancer patients and their families. Patients who take an active part in making decisions about their treatment are better able to deal with their illness than are patients who give control to their doctors. The book provides information on all aspects of colon and rectal cancer and equips patients with the knowledge needed to take an active part in their treatment. Topics include: what cancer is, the symptoms your doctor watches for, how you can prevent colorectal cancer, which screening test is best and when should it be started?, when to have surgery, chemotherapy, or radiation, which treatments to avoid, what actually happens when you undergo surgery, possible complications of surgery, side effects of chemotherapy and radiation, alternative treatments, and psychological effects of colorectal cancer. The following quote is by former CEO Canadian Cancer Society and National Cancer Institute of Canada: The Intelligent Patient Guide has been at my side for the last eight months as I fought cancer. When I needed (information) it never failed me. Dr. Pezim is the Medical Director of the Pezim Clinic, a gastrointestinal diagnostic and treatment centre in Vancouver. He received his MD from the University of Toronto Medical School and completed surgical training at the University of British Columbia. He was a Surgical and Research Fellow in colon and rectal surgery at St. Mark's Hospital in London, England and at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. Prior to entering private practice, Dr. Pezim was an Associate Professor of Surgery and Head of the Section of Colon and Rectal Surgery at the University of British Columbia, and a Consultant to the BC Cancer Agency. Dr. Owen is a Professor in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at the University of British Columbia and a Consultant Pathologist at the Vancouver General Hospital and the BC Cancer Agency. He received his medical training at St. Thomas' Hospital Medical School and became a lecturer in pathology at the University of London, in England. He was an Associate Professor in the Department of Pathology at the University of Manitoba until moving to Vancouver in 1980. Dr. Owen has long been a favourite teacher of pathologists-in-training and is regarded as one of the most capable gastrointestinal pathologists in North America.

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