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Squamous cell carcinoma of the anal canal

INSERM

Source

INSERM. (1999). *Orphanet: an online rare disease and orphan drug data base. Squamous cell carcinoma of the anal canal. ORPHA:424019*

Squamous cell carcinoma of the anal canal is a rare epithelial intestinal neoplasm, arising from squamous epithelial cells in the anal canal, with variable macroscopic appearance, ranging from small, benign lesions (that mimic fissures, hemorrhoids or anorectal fistulae) to a large, exophytic or ulcerating tumor localized within the anal canal. Patients may be asymptomatic or present difficulty to defecate, anal bleeding, pain and/or discharge, and often have a history of chronic anal fistulae and abscesses, Crohn's disease, hemorrhoids, or, especially in younger patients, immunosuppression (such as HIV infection). Association with HPV infection is commonly reported.