



PROCTOLOGIC EXAMINATION

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In this section, the objective is to teach the ability to define the diagnosis and treatment of perianal diseases in the proctologic examination, which is one of the important examination methods in General Surgery. At this stage, it is essential to possess knowledge of the anatomy of the anal canal and rectum to facilitate better comprehension.

1. Basic Anatomy of the Anorectal Region

The rectum extends for a length of 15 cm in front of the sacrum (Figure 1). The levator muscles join the rectal wall approximately 3 cm below the coccyx, initiating the anal canal, which is about 3-4 cm in length. The rectum is divided into three equal parts: upper, middle, and lower thirds. Starting 5 cm to the dentate line termed distal third, the area between 5-10 cm is termed the middle third, and the region between 10-15 cm is referred to as the upper third of the rectum. Division into these segments is important for planning the treatment of rectal cancer (i.e. surgical intervention is initiated first for tumors in the upper rectum, whereas tumors in the other sections are initially treated with radiotherapy).

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Sclerotherapy

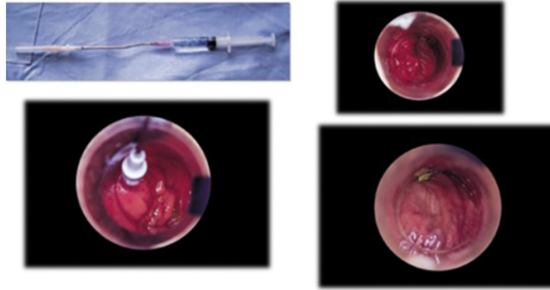


Figure 24. Anoscopy.

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