## Side effects of Colon, Rectum and Anus Treatment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organ System</th>
<th>Short-term (Acute) Complications (Days-Months After Treatment)</th>
<th>Long-term (Chronic) Complications (Months-Years After Treatment)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **General Body**      | • Fatigue
                      • Decreased blood counts                                     | • None                                                        |
| **GI**                | • Frequent bowel movements
                      • Diarrhea/loose stools
                      • Cramping
                      • Rectal discomfort/pain                                      | • Diarrhea
                      • Frequent bowel movements
                      • Incontinence
                      • Scar tissue/Bowel blockage
                      • Blood with bowel movements                                  |
| **GU**                | • Frequent urination
                      • Burning/pain with urination                                   | • Increased urinary frequency
                      • Blood with urination
                      • Scar tissue                                                   |
| **Skin: In Radiation Field** | • Irritation/inflammation
                      • Itching
                      • Redness/Darkening
                      • Dryness
                      • Hair Loss
                      • Pain
                      • Dry and Wet peeling                                           | • Small blood vessel formation (telangiectasia)
                      • Lightening/darkening of treated skin
                      • Fibrosis
                      • Tissue thinning
                      • Dryness
                      • Hair loss
                      • Discomfort with sexual intercourse                           |
| **Lymph (Drainage) System** | • Swelling of legs (only when groin areas are treated)          |                                                               |