OSTOMY 101 WASSOCIATIONS OF AMERICA, IN

Provided by United Ostomy Associations of America

WHAT IS AN OSTOMY?



OSTOMIES ARE PROSTHETICS

A **colostomy** diverts stool from the colon.



An **ileostomy** diverts stool from the small intestines.



A **urostomy** diverts urine when the bladder has been removed or bypassed. AN OSTOMY causes a change in the way urine or stool exits the body as a result of a surgical procedure. Bodily waste is rerouted from its usual path because of malfunctioning parts of the urinary or digestive system. They can be temporary or permanent.

A STOMA is the opening created by ostomy surgery. It is located on the abdomen and is dark pink in color. For most ostomies, a pouch is worn over the stoma to collect stool or urine. For some people it is possible to have a continent diversion, which is a procedure that avoids having to wear a pouch, as an alternative to a conventional ostomy.



Persons living with an ostomy in the U.S.

DID YOU KNOW...?

You'd likely never know if you met a person with an ostomy.

Babies, kids and adults have ostomies.

Approximately **100,000** ostomy surgeries are performed annually in the United States.



People with ostomies live full & meaningful lives that include swimming, working, playing sports & having relationships.

OSTOMIES SAVE LIVES.

WHY DOES A PERSON NEED OR CHOOSE AN OSTOMY?



COMMON REASONS FOR A **COLOSTOMY:**

Diverticulitis causing rupture Inflammatory Bowel Disease Birth Defects

Cancers Bowel obstruction Injury

COMMON REASONS FOR AN **ILEOSTOMY**:

Inflammatory Bowel Disease
Familial adenomatous
Birth Defects
polyposis
Cancers

COMMON REASONS FOR A **UROSTOMY**:

Cancer (particularly of the bladder) Birth defects

Bladder diseases or injuries

OSTOMY.ORG

Advocates for a Positive Change