

## Glossary

### A

**Abscess**—Infected fluid collection in a tissue cavity (usually caused by a leak in the intestines).

### B

**Bowel**—Another name for the intestine. The small and large bowels are the small and large intestines, respectively.

### C

**Colon**—Large bowel or large intestine.

**Constipation**—Infrequent bowel movements or difficulty passing stools.

### D

**Diarrhea**—Passage of excessively frequent or excessively liquid stools.

### E

**Endoscopy**—Visual inspection of the internal organs using a tubular camera scope.

**Enema**—Injection of fluid or medication into the rectum.

### F

**Fistula**—Unnatural channel that forms between portions of intestine, or between the intestine and another nearby structure such as the bladder, vagina, or skin.

**Flare (or flare-up)**—Return of IBD symptoms often caused by increased inflammation in the gastrointestinal tract.

### G

**Gastrointestinal (GI, or digestive) tract**—Collectively referring to the mouth, esophagus, stomach, small and large intestines, and anus.

### I

**Ileal-pouch anal anastomosis (IPAA)/j-pouch**—Surgical construction of a stool storage pouch made from the lower portion of the small intestine and connected to the anus.

**Ileostomy**—Surgical opening in the abdominal wall allowing for the external passage of stool from the ileum.

**Ileum**—Lowest portion of the small intestine that connects to the large intestine.

**Immune system**—The body's natural defense system that fights against disease.

**Inflammation**—Immune response to tissue injury that causes redness, swelling, and pain.

**Intestine**—Long, tubelike organ in the abdomen that completes the process of digestion. It consists of the small and large intestines. Also called the bowel.

### L

**Lymphoma**—Cancer of the lymph nodes.

### O

**Ostomy bag**—External bag that stores stool passed through the abdominal wall, commonly via an ileostomy after a proctocolectomy.

### P

**Pouchitis**—Inflammation of the ileoanal pouch following a restorative proctocolectomy.

**Proctocolectomy**—Surgical procedure involving removal of the rectum and/or colon.

### R

**Rectum**—Lowest portion of the large intestine that connects to the anus.

**Remission**—Period in which IBD symptoms disappear or substantially decrease and good health returns.

**Resection**—Surgical removal of a diseased portion of the intestine.

### S

**Stoma**—Artificial opening on the skin that allows for draining and stool collection into an ostomy bag.

**Stricture**—Unusual narrowing of the intestine caused by inflammation or scar tissue.

**Strictureplasty**—Surgical procedure to widen the intestine as a result of a stricture.

**Suppository**—Medication (pill or capsule) that is delivered by insertion through the anus.