Intestines/Liver/Lymph Nodes

Intestines

The intestines, liver, and lymph nodes are not significantly affected by most forms of the Whipple Procedure.

You may lose between a couple inches and a couple feet of the small intestine (jejunum), but not enough to cause serious problems.

Liver

Suspicious sections of the liver may be removed for biopsy, but the liver can regenerate much of this loss.

Lymph Nodes

Lymph nodes are frequently removed for biopsy testing to see if the cancer has spread.

Not all lymph nodes have the ability to regrow after removal. The regrowth potential can vary depending on several factors, including the individual's age, overall health, and the specific reason for lymph node removal.

When and where lymph nodes can grow back, the timeframe for lymph node regrowth can vary significantly. In some cases, regrowth may occur within a few months, while in others, it may take several years.