

Colorectal Cancer Screening

Who Should Be Screened for Colorectal Cancer?

Both men and women should be regularly screened for colorectal cancer **beginning at age 50**. However, you may need to be tested earlier and more often if:

- You or a close relative have had colorectal polyps or colorectal cancer
- You have inflammatory bowel disease
- You have genetic syndromes that put you at higher risk

What Screening Tests are Available?

There are two categories of tests for colorectal cancer. Only one test is needed, on a yearly, 5 or 10 year schedule as indicated.

Tests that find polyps and cancer:

- Flexible sigmoidoscopy every 5 years
- Colonoscopy every 10 years
- Double-contrast barium enema every 5 years
- CT colonoscopy (virtual colonoscopy) every 5 years

Tests that primarily find cancer:

- Fecal occult blood test (gFOBT) each year
- Fecal immunochemical test (FIT) each year
- Stool DNA test (sDNA) as recommended by your doctor

Screening can find pre-cancerous polyps and remove them before they turn into cancer.

Did You Know?

80% of colorectal cancer deaths could be prevented with regular screening.



For more information, call City-County Health Department at 791-9272 or 452-0881 x308 or visit www.cchdmt.org