

Cancer Community Connections

NATIONAL COLORECTAL CANCER MONTH



WHAT IS COLORECTAL CANCER (CRC)?

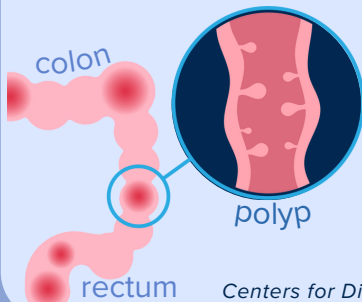
CRC can happen when cells in the colon or rectum grow out of control. It usually begins as unusual growths (polyps) that can be removed before they become cancerous. If colon cancer is caught early, it can be cured with treatment.

National Cancer Institute

DID YOU KNOW? CRC is the third most common cancer diagnosed in the U.S.

How does CRC develop?

Most CRC begins as a **polyp** (non cancerous growth) that forms on the colon or rectum.



Polyps can be found through **screening**

Some polyps can become **cancerous**

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Screening tests can detect CRC at an early, **treatable** stage

VISUAL TESTS

Includes colonoscopy, CT colonography, and flexible sigmoidoscopy.



The early stages of CRC rarely cause symptoms, so **screening tests should begin at 45** for those who are average risk for CRC.

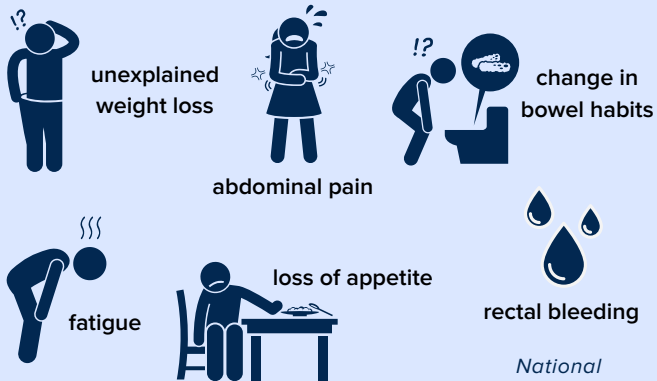


STOOL TESTS

An at-home FIT test looks for abnormal DNA or blood.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

CRC symptoms can include..



Not everyone experiences symptoms

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WHAT CAN I DO?



Ask your primary care provider about CRC screening options



Schedule a colonoscopy or stool-based screening test at age 45



Eat balanced foods, maintain a healthy weight, and move your body often.

National Cancer Institute

CANCER CENTER UPDATE

Check out this [video](#) made in collaboration with Ampla Health to learn more about colorectal cancer screening.

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS IN ONCOLOGY

Join us for the Comprehensive Cancer Center's monthly Distinguished Speakers in Oncology lecture series. Explore the future of cancer research with renowned experts.

