

# Colorectal Cancer Screening

## Which test should you get?



Average risk	Family history	History of colon polyps or cancer
<p>If you've <b>never</b> had colorectal polyps or cancer...  <b>Begin screening at age 50</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Note: Screening is suggested beginning at age 45 for African Americans. Some experts recommend screening beginning at age 45 for all people at average risk.*</li> </ul>	<p>If you have a <b>family history</b> of colon polyps or cancer...  <b>Colonoscopy may be recommended at age 40 or younger</b></p>	<p>If you've <b>ever</b> had colorectal polyps or cancer...  <b>Further follow-up is done with colonoscopy</b></p>
Recommended Tests:	Recommended Tests:	Recommended Tests:
<p><b>Preferred Tests</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Colonoscopy every 10 years*</li> <li>Annual Fecal Immunochemical Test</li> </ul> <p><b>Other Options</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FIT-fecal DNA (Cologuard®) every 3 years</li> <li>CT colonography every 5 years</li> <li>Flexible sigmoidoscopy every 5-10 years</li> </ul> <p>*Colonoscopy is the <b>best</b> test for finding precancerous polyps.            *Colonoscopy is the <b>only</b> test that allows for removal of precancerous polyps during the exam.            *Colonoscopy is the <b>only</b> test recommended at 10 year intervals.            *When any test other than colonoscopy is used and is positive, a colonoscopy must be performed to follow up.</p>	<p><b>Colonoscopy is the only test recommended for many individuals with a family history of colon polyps or colon cancer</b></p> <p>Depending upon the details of your family history, colonoscopy may be recommended beginning at age 40 or younger</p> <p><b>Talk to your doctor about the details of your family history</b></p>	<p><b>Colonoscopy is the only test established as safe and effective for polyp follow-up</b></p> <p><b>Your colonoscopy doctor will recommend how often you should repeat colonoscopy based on:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The number and size of your precancerous polyps</li> <li>The type of precancerous polyps as reported by the pathologist</li> <li>How your polyps were removed</li> <li>Or, if you have had colon cancer, the details of your cancer diagnosis and treatment</li> </ul>

For more information, visit [www.Screen4ColonCancer.org](http://www.Screen4ColonCancer.org)

*This information is based on the document: Colorectal cancer screening: Recommendations for physicians and patients from the U.S. Multi-Society Task Force on Colorectal Cancer, July 2017*

*\*The American Cancer Society recommends screening beginning at age 45 for people at average risk for CRC. American Cancer Society Guideline for Colorectal Cancer Screening, May 2018*



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