

# GUAM FACTS



01

Colorectal cancer is the 3rd leading cause of cancer death.

02

Colonoscopy screening rate is 41% for adults ages 50-75 (BRFSS, 2016).

03

Only 5.7% blood stool test screening rate for adults ages 50-75 (BRFSS, 2016).

04

Guam's goal is to reach 80% screening rate by 2020.

05

Screening for the disease is extremely low on Guam, which could be a contributing factor in the high death rate of colorectal cancer for islanders.

# SCREENING SAVES LIVES

If you are **50 or older**, getting a colorectal cancer screening test could save your life.

HERE ARE THE FACTS:

COLORECTAL CANCER USUALLY STARTS FROM POLYPS IN THE COLON OR RECTUM.

A POLYP IS A GROWTH THAT SHOULDN'T BE THERE, AND OVER TIME MAY TURN INTO CANCER.

SCREENING TESTS CAN FIND AND REMOVE POLYPS BEFORE THEY TURN INTO CANCER.

SCREENING IS CRUCIAL. WHEN FOUND EARLY, COLORECTAL CANCER IS **HIGHLY TREATABLE.**

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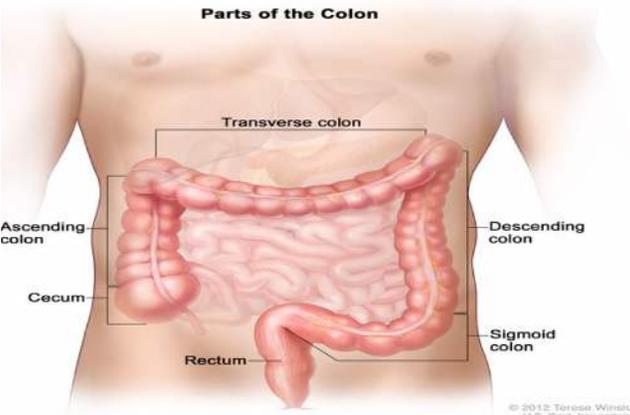
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# COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING SAVES LIVES



# WHAT IS COLORECTAL CANCER?

Colorectal cancer is also known as **colon cancer**. It occurs in the colon (large intestine or large bowel) or the rectum (passageway that connects the colon to the anus).



# WHO GETS COLORECTAL CANCER?

Both men and women  
Most often found in people **50 or older**  
The risk increases with age



## TALK WITH YOUR DOCTOR ABOUT GETTING SCREENED!

If everyone age **50 and over** had regular screening tests, at least 60% of deaths from colon cancer could be avoided.

### TWO MOST COMMON SCREENING TEST TOOLS:

- 01 STOOL TEST** - FECAL OCCULT BLOOD TEST (FOBT), A TEST THAT CHECKS FOR BLOOD IN YOUR STOOL USING A KIT YOUR DOCTOR GIVES YOU
- 02 COLONOSCOPY** - TEST THAT USES A TUBE WITH A TINY CAMERA TO LOOK FOR AND REMOVE POLYPS AND CANCER IN YOUR COLON AND RECTUM

# COLORECTAL CANCER CAN START WITH NO SYMPTOMS

PRECANCEROUS POLYPS AND EARLY-STAGE COLORECTAL CANCER **DON'T ALWAYS CAUSE SYMPTOMS**, ESPECIALLY AT FIRST. SOMEONE COULD HAVE POLYPS OR COLORECTAL CANCER AND NOT KNOW IT. THAT IS WHY HAVING A SCREENING TEST IS SO IMPORTANT.



## WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS

- BLOOD IN OR ON YOUR STOOL (BOWEL MOVEMENT)
- STOMACH PAINS, ACHES, OR CRAMPS THAT DON'T GO AWAY
- UNINTENDED WEIGHT LOSS
- FEELING WEAK OR VERY TIRED ALL THE TIME

### THE BOTTOM LINE

**IF YOU'RE 50 OR OLDER, TALK WITH YOUR DOCTOR ABOUT GET SCREENED.**

**JOIN THE NATIONAL EFFORT TO GET 80% OF ADULT AGES 50 AND OLDER REGULARLY SCREENED FOR COLORECTAL CANCER BY 2020.**