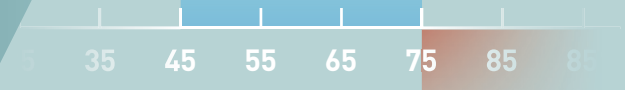
Who Should Be Screened for Colorectal Cancer?

Men and women ages 45*-75[1]



Patients age 76 and older should be referred to a gastroenterologist.

Stool- and Blood-based Screening:

Not *appropriate for every patient*

For **average-risk patients** ages 45 and older who **refuse or are unable** to have colonoscopy[2,3]

Not for patients with high risk of colorectal cancer or conditions associated with high risk, such as **personal history** of polyps, IBD, and **family history** of certain cancers[4]

Stool- and blood-based screenings do not prevent cancer, and a positive screening requires follow up colonoscopy if polyps or cancer are detected.[3,4,5]

The Gold Standard: Screening Colonoscopy by a Gastroenterologist

*The only screening that detects **and** prevents cancer*[4]

Recommended for **patients ages** 45-75[1]

The only test for those with risk factors such as **personal history** of polyps or colorectal cancer, or **family history** of certain cancers[5]

DIGESTIVE HEALTH PHYSICIANS ASSOCIATION®

For more information, please visit **dhpassociation.org/crc-screening**

SOURCES **1.** American Cancer Society. American Cancer Society Guideline for Colorectal Cancer Screening. https://www.cancer.org/cancer/colon-rectal-cancer/detection-diagnosis-staging/acs-recommendations.html. **2.** Patel S, May F, Anderson J, et al. Updates on Age to Start and Stop Colorectal Cancer Screening: Recommendations From the U.S. Multi-Society Task Force on Colorectal Cancer. Gastroenterology 2022;162:285–299. https://doi.org/10.1053/j.gastro.2021.10.007. **3.** Rex D, Boland C, Dominitz J et al. Colorectal Cancer Screening: Recommendations for Physicians and Patients from the U.S. Multi-Society Task Force on Colorectal Cancer. The American Journal of Gastroenterology 2017;112:1016-1030. http://doi.org/10.1038/ajg.2017.174. **4.** U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Summary of Safety and Effectiveness Data (SSED). https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/cdrh_docs/pdf13/P130017b.pdf. **5.** American Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy. Colorectal Cancer Screening, Which Test Should You Get? https://www.asge.org/docs/default-source/default-document-library/colorectalscreening_poster_2020_digital.pdf. All links accessed February 14, 2026

Help Prevent Colorectal Cancer

Talk with your doctor about screening options

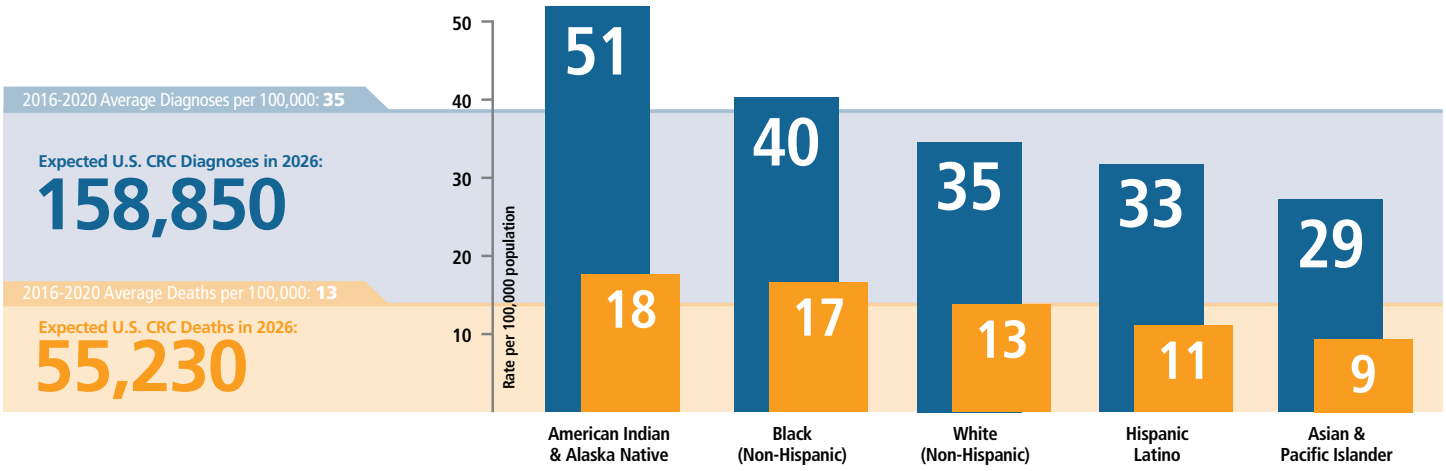
DIGESTIVE HEALTH PHYSICIANS ASSOCIATION®

www.dhpassociation.org

COLORECTAL CANCER: AM I AT RISK?

Colorectal Cancer (CRC) Disparities in the U.S.[1]

Colorectal Cancer Incidence (2018-2022) and Mortality (2019-2023) Rates by Ethnicity/Race, U.S.



Did You Know?

Disparities are driven by socioeconomic status and differences in access to early detection and treatment[2,3]

Screening is lowest among:[5]

- Ages 45-49 years (37%)
- Asian Americans (58%)
- Individuals with less than a high school education (51%)
- The uninsured (25%)
- Recent immigrants (43%)

Blacks and Hispanics are less likely to get prompt follow up after abnormal screening results and more likely to be diagnosed with late stage cancer[2,3,4]

When diagnosed at an early stage, survival rates are similar across all racial and ethnic groups[6]

How Can I Help Reduce CRC Disparities?

Ask your primary care or GI physician about available CRC screening options[7,8]

Schedule a screening colonoscopy at age 45[9]

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