

Colon Cancer Screening: Health Center Perspectives and Screening Recommendations

Populations & Screening Recommendations:

Adults 50-75 Years:

The United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) recommends screening for colorectal cancer in all adults aged 50 to 75 years.

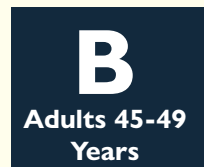
Adults 45-49 Years:

The USPSTF recommends screening for colorectal cancer in adults aged 45 to 49 years (new recommendation).

Adults 76-85 Years:

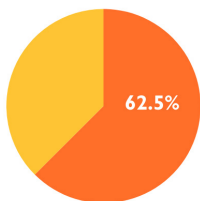
The USPSTF recommends that clinicians selectively offer screening for colorectal cancer in adults aged 76 to 85 years. Evidence indicates that the net benefit of screening all persons in this age group is small. In determining whether this service is appropriate in individual cases, patients and clinicians should consider the patient's overall health, prior screening history, and preferences.

Grade:

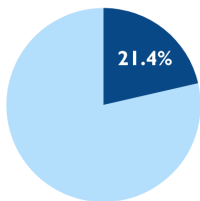


Source: US Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) Recommendation Statement

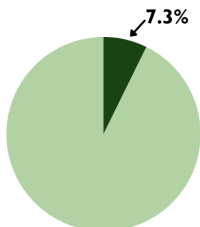
Public Housing Primary Care Patient Reasons for Obtaining Last Colon Cancer Screening



Part of a Routine Exam:
 62.5%

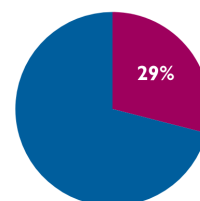


Because of a Problem:
 21.4%

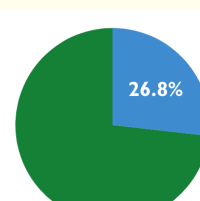


Follow-up test of an
 earlier test or screening
 exam:
 7.3%

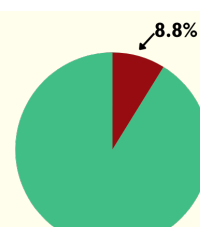
Most Common Reasons for Not Obtaining Colon Cancer Screening Among Public Housing Primary Care Patients



No reason/never thought
 about it:
 29%



Didn't know they
 needed the test:
 26.8%

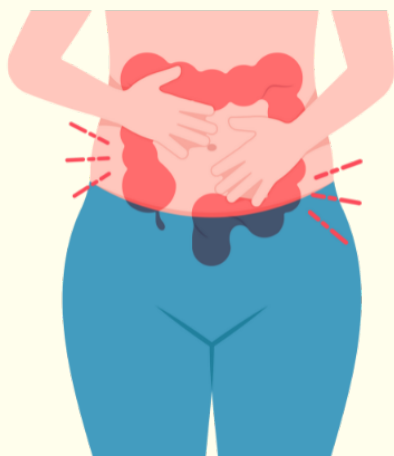


Too painful, unpleasant,
 or embarrassing:
 8.8%

Source: Health Center Patient Survey, 2022

Improving Rates of Colorectal Cancer Screening at Health Centers

Clinicians' Best Practices to Boost Colorectal Cancer Screening at Health Centers



Be persistent, patient and persuasive: Patients often require several reminders before completing their recommended screening. Providers should utilize clinic appointments and multi-channel marketing to provide frequent, friendly reminders and patient education.

Record reconciliation: Ensure patients know how to update their Primary Care Provider (PCP) if they receive out of system screening. These records should be uploaded and clearly labeled in the facility's EHR.

Refer for social support: Patients who have not received their colorectal cancer screening should receive SDOH screening and referral to support when appropriate.

Support your colleagues: Ensure an interdisciplinary approach to encourage screening.

Practice culturally competent and trauma-informed care: Making patients feel safe and comfortable improves uptake of provider guidance.

Health Center Promising Practices to Boost Colorectal Cancer Screening

Improve Access to Transportation

Health centers often leverage inter-organizational partnerships to improve access to transportation for their patients.



Innovative Marketing

Using social marketing and multi-channel marketing to promote colorectal screening has been shown to increase the likelihood that patients are up-to-date with their screening.



Fostering Partnerships

Fostering partnerships between health centers and community partners improves colorectal cancer screening rates.



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