



2018 Colorectal Cancer Fact Sheet

March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

Colon & rectal cancers are referred to as "colorectal cancer" and abbreviated "CRC"

About Colorectal Cancer:

- 2nd leading cause of cancer death among men & women combined
- 3rd most commonly diagnosed cancer
- 140,250 estimated new cases in 2018
- 50,630 estimated deaths in 2018
- 1 in 20 people will be diagnosed in their lifetimes
- 1 in 3 people are not up-to-date with screening
- 38 million people 50 years old and over have not been screened
- 60% of deaths could be prevented with screening

Hereditary/Genetic Stats:

- People with a first-degree relative (parent, sibling or child) with colon cancer are between two to three times more likely to develop the cancer than those without a family history.
- 25% of people diagnosed with colorectal cancer have a family history.

Early-Age Onset (under 45) Incidence:

- Data suggests that the incidence of colorectal cancer for those under 50 is on the rise and more young people are being diagnosed with colorectal cancer.
- 10-11% of colon cancers and 18% of rectal cancers are diagnosed in individuals under the age of 50
- Up to 22% of colorectal cancer cases diagnosed before the age of 50 are associated hereditary cancer syndromes; additional cases are related to inflammatory bowel disease.
- Colorectal cancers in individuals under 50 are more likely associated with symptoms. It's very important to seek medical care for unexplained persistent rectal bleeding and other signs and symptoms.

Resources:

American Cancer Society:

<https://cancerstatisticscenter.cancer.org/#/cancer-site/Colorectum>

National Cancer Institute:

<http://seer.cancer.gov/statfacts/html/colorect.html>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

<https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/colorectal/sfl/index.htm>