Learn How You Can Score Against Colon Cancer

Take 10 Minutes to Learn Your Risk



More than 140,000 new cases every year

1 out of 18 people in the United States

### Score Against Colon Cancer

Over 50,000 lives lost annually

Both women and men

# Colon Cancer Awareness

### What is Colon Cancer?

Often referred to as colorectal cancer or bowel cancer, it is one of the most preventable cancers. Almost always colon cancer starts as non-cancerous growth called a polyp that forms on the lining of the colon and rectum.

### How Can it Be Prevented?

If polyps are found and removed early enough through an exam called a colonoscopy, **the cancer can be prevented** before it gets started. If cancer is detected and found early, 90 percent of these cases are curable.

# What are the Symptoms of Colon Cancer?

#### Colon cancer often has no symptoms at all!

However, the following symptoms may indicate the need for a colonoscopy. If you experience the symptoms below, call your doctor right away.

- Change in bowel habits
- Diarrhea, constipation or a combination of both
- Bleeding from the rectum
- Red blood in stool or blackened stool
- Thin stools
- Frequent gas pains
- Constant tiredness
- Unexplained weight loss
- Abdominal pain (bloating, gas, cramps)
- Vomiting

### How Common is Colon Cancer?

More than 140,000 Americans will be diagnosed with colon cancer this year. That is 1 out of 18 people in the United States.

Colon cancer is the second leading cancer killer for men and women in North America, second only to lung cancer. Colon cancer claims over 50,000 lives every year.

Both women and men are at risk of developing colon cancer.

Up to 5 percent of all colorectal cancers are inherited.

### Are you at increased risk?

The average risk of developing colon cancer in the North American population is 1 out of 18 (5.6 percent). Some people are at a higher than average risk. Having a parent, child, brother or sister with colon cancer increases your risk of colon cancer by two to three times.

To find out your risk, call **888.503.0988** and a healthcare professional will guide you through an easy, 10-minute quiz to determine your colon cancer risk score.

Take this first step today to score against colon cancer.

## Score Against Colon Cancer

6

Colon Cancer often has no symptoms at all.

The Cleveland Clinic is ranked #1 in Ohio in both digestive diseases and cancer care by U.S.News & World Report.

Learn more about the Digestive Disease Institute at clevelandclinic.org/digestivedisease and Taussig Cancer Institute at clevelandclinic.org/cancer.

If you want to learn how to score against colon cancer, call **888.503.0988** for a free confidential discussion about your personal and family medical history. National colon cancer prevention recommendations will be provided to you based on your own assessment.



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Cleveland Clinic is a nonprofit multispecialty academic medical center. Founded in 1921, it is dedicated to providing quality specialized care and includes an outpatient clinic, a hospital with more than 1,000 staffed beds, an education institute and a research institute.

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