



Improving Colorectal Cancer Screening Rates in North Dakota

It's A Matter of Choice



Quality Health Associates
of North Dakota

Peer Sharing

- What CRC Screening options are currently offered to your patients?
How was it decided?
- When patients refuse CRC screening, are barriers to the tests discussed? Options offered?

There are many screening tests for CRC! Which is the best?

- Colonoscopy
- FIT
- Cologuard



Clinic Story

CRC Test Choice: Calling Patients and Offering Stool Test Kits Raise Colorectal Cancer Screening Use in South Dakota

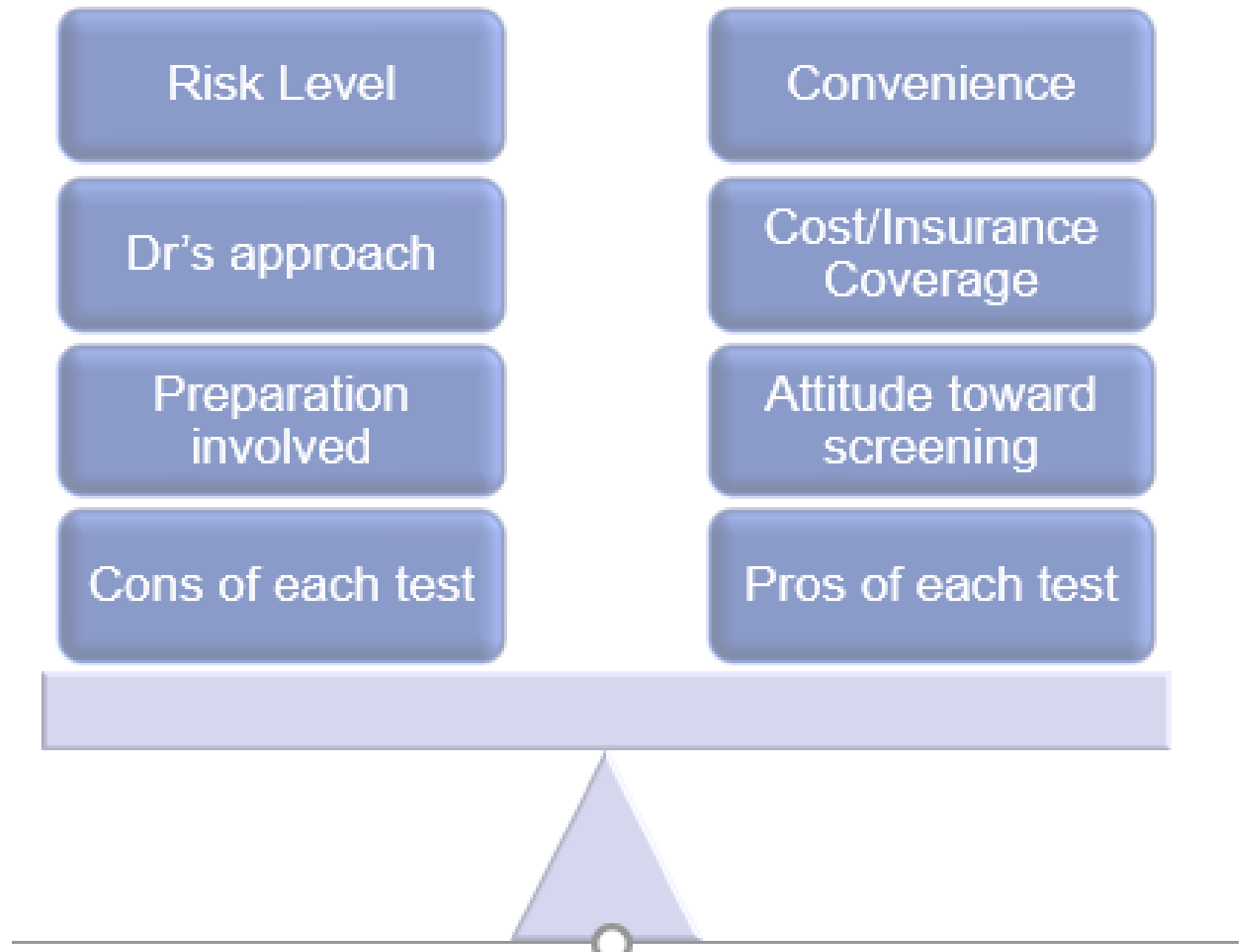
The Sanford Watertown Clinic tried but could not raise its colorectal cancer screening use. Patients said they didn't get screened because of the cost, they didn't like the preparation needed for a colonoscopy, they were afraid of a colonoscopy, or they couldn't take time off from work.

Care managers at the clinic made a list of patients who needed to be screened. They called these patients to talk about why they should be screened and the different tests available to them.

As a result, 21 patients scheduled a colonoscopy. The care managers mailed 100 stool test kits to patients not getting a colonoscopy; more than half of the tests were completed and returned. Three completed test kits had positive results, and all three people then had a colonoscopy. The clinic's screening use went up from 66% to almost 75% within a few months.

<https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/crccp/success/test-choice.htm>

Considerations



Scopes	Pros	Cons
<p>Colonoscopy - 30-60 min, q-10yrs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One of the most sensitive tests currently available • Doctor can view entire colon and rectum • Abnormal tissue, such as polyps, and tissue samples (biopsies) can be removed through the scope during exam 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May not detect all small polyps and cancers • Bowel prep required • Sedation almost always used – may take hours to wear off • Need a driver • Rare complications: bleeding from site of polyp or biopsy; tear in colon or rectum wall • Cramping/bloating may occur afterward
<p>Virtual Colonoscopy - 10 min, q-5yrs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sedation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May not detect all small polyps and cancers • Bowel prep required • Diet and medication adjustments b/4 test • Radiation exposure • Tissue samples can't be taken during exam • Follow-up test needed if positive • Cramping/bloating afterward • May detect abnormalities in other abdominal organs and tests may be needed to determine cause
<p>Flexible Sigmoidoscopy - q-5yrs or q-10 yrs with FIT annually</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One of the most sensitive tests currently available • Abnormal tissue can be removed through the scope during exam • Bowel prep is less complicated. • Sedation not usually needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same as colonoscopy • Can only view inside the rectum and lower 1/3 of colon • If a pre-cancerous polyp or cancer is found, will require a colonoscopy to look at the rest of the colon

Stool Tests	Pros	Cons
FIT (Immunochemical) - Annual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sample collection at home • No colon prep • Only one sample (1 BM) • No sedation • Overall diagnostic accuracy of 95% • Lowest cost (\$75-\$125) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fails to detect polyps • Additional tests needed if positive • Lowest risk of false-positive result
Stool DNA (Cologuard) - q 3yrs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sample collection at home • No colon prep • Requires collecting an entire BM (vs a sample) • No sedation • Cost of \$500 (q3 yrs) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less sensitive than colonoscopy at detecting precancerous polyps • Additional tests needed if positive • False-positive result
High Sensitivity FOBT (Guaiac) - Annual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sample collection at home • No colon prep • Requires 3 bowel movements (3 samples) • No sedation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fails to detect polyps • Food/Medication restrictions for days before test • Additional tests needed if positive • Low risk of false-positive result

Colorectal Cancer Screening: Which test is right for you?

- » **COLORECTAL CANCER IS THE SECOND-LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH FROM CANCER IN THE U.S. FOR MEN AND WOMEN COMBINED. The best way to prevent death from colorectal cancer is to stay current with screening.**
- » **THERE ARE MANY SCREENING TESTS FOR COLORECTAL CANCER.** You and your health care provider have a decision to make about which screening test is right for you. The test you choose will depend on your preference and which tests are available to you. No matter which test you use, the most important thing is to get tested.
- » **THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY RECOMMENDS** that adults ages 45 and older with an average risk of colorectal cancer get screened regularly with a stool test or a visual test. Part of screening is having a follow-up colonoscopy for positive results on any screening test (besides colonoscopy).



Who is this decision aid for?
This decision aid is for adults who:

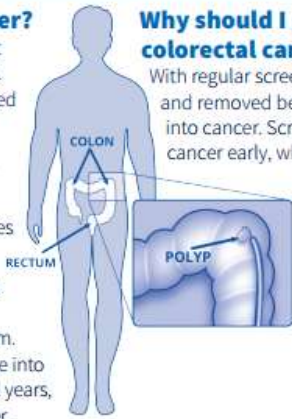
Are 45 years of age or older

Are at average risk for colorectal cancer

What is colorectal cancer?

Colorectal cancer is a cancer that starts in the colon or the rectum. These cancers can also be named colon cancer or rectal cancer, depending on where they start. Colon cancer and rectal cancer are often grouped together because they have many features in common.

Most colorectal cancers begin as a growth called a polyp on the inner lining of the colon or rectum. Some types of polyps can change into cancer over the course of several years, but not all polyps become cancer.



Why should I get screened for colorectal cancer?

With regular screening, most polyps can be found and removed before they have the chance to turn into cancer. Screening can also find colorectal cancer early, when it is smaller and easier to treat.

Colorectal cancer is the second-leading cause of cancer death in the U.S. when men and women are combined, yet it can be prevented or detected at an early stage.

How can I lower my risk of getting colorectal cancer?

There are things you can do to help lower your risk, such as staying at a healthy weight, being physically active, not smoking, limiting alcohol, and eating a diet high in vegetables and fruits.



Which tests are available?

Many options may be available to you. The screening tests below are effective ways to find colorectal cancer. These tests fall into two main categories: Stool tests are tests you can do at home with a stool sample and mailing it to a lab.

Visual tests are tests that a doctor does to look inside your colon. Most health insurance plans, including Medicare, cover most of these screening tests. Talk with your provider about which screening tests might be right for you.

STOOL TESTS

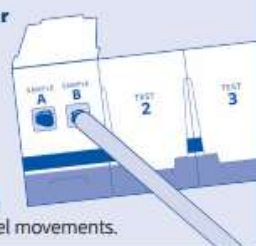
Immunochemical

Once a year
 Collect a stool sample using a kit you mail to a lab. Blood in the stool is detected in the sample.



High-Sensitivity Guaiac-based Fecal Immunochemical Test (HSgFOBT)

Once a year
 Collect a stool sample using a kit you mail to a lab. Blood in the stool is detected in 3 bowel movements.



Multi-target Stool DNA (MT-sDNA)

Once every 3 years
 Collect a stool sample at home using a kit that is shipped to you. The test looks for blood and DNA from polyps.



VISUAL TESTS

Colonoscopy

HOW OFTEN: **Every 10 years**

- » Your provider uses a tube with a tiny camera to look for and remove polyps and cancer in your colon and rectum.
- » You take a prep (tablets and something to drink) before the test to empty the colon. It causes diarrhea (watery stool).
- » You will be sedated and need a day off work. You will need someone to drive you.



CT Colonography (CTC)

HOW OFTEN: **Every 5 years**

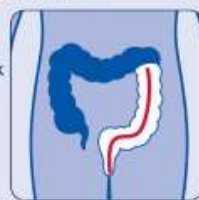
- » The test is also called virtual colonoscopy.
- » Your provider uses an x-ray machine to look for polyps and cancer in your colon and rectum.
- » You take a prep (tablets and something to drink) before the test to empty the colon. It causes diarrhea (watery stool).



Flexible Sigmoidoscopy (FS)

HOW OFTEN: **Every 5 years**

- » Your provider uses a tube with a tiny camera to look for polyps and cancer in the lower part of your colon and rectum.
- » You give yourself 1 or 2 pre-filled enemas before the test to empty and clean the colon.
- » This test is not available in most places.



Work with your health care provider to choose your next primary care provider. Your provider will help you and your family decide which screening test is right for you.

Preventing colon cancer or finding it early doesn't have to be expensive. There are simple, affordable tests available. Get screened! Call your doctor today.

Work with your health care provider to choose a screening test. Answer the questions below to help you decide which test is right for you.

Question	NOT CONCERNED	VERY CONCERNED
Do you have blood in your stool?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Do you have a family history of colorectal cancer?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Do you have a history of colorectal cancer, so I should be screened?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Do you have a family history of colorectal cancer, so I should be screened?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Do you have a family history of colorectal cancer, so I should be screened?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Colorectal cancer screening

Colorectal cancer screening is covered by insurance, including Medicare and Medicaid, so low-cost screening options are available.

Most people with a history of colorectal cancer, so I should be screened.

Polyps are found in people without a history of colorectal cancer. Those with a family history of colorectal cancer should be screened.

Screening should be fine.

Colorectal cancer or polyps even if your family history is fine.

Colorectal cancer is not that common.

Colorectal cancer is the second-leading cause of cancer death in the U.S. Screening is the best way to prevent colorectal cancer.

Screening is the only way to get screened.

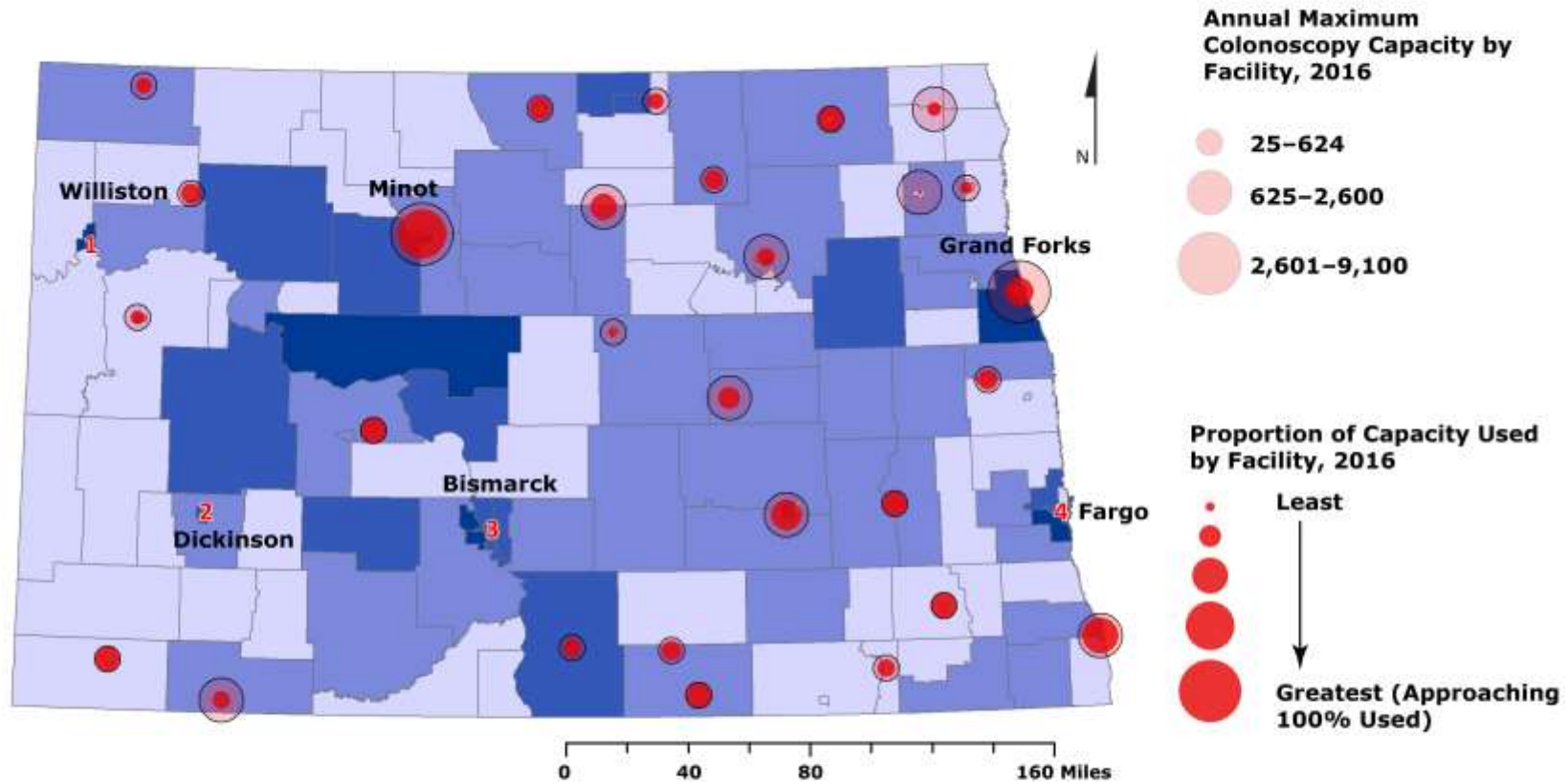
Screening tests are available. Screening can be done at home.

Questions for your health care provider

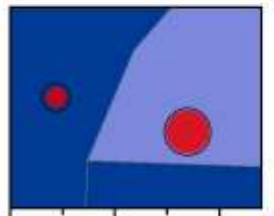
- » Why do I need to get screened now?
- » What tests do you recommend for me?
- » How do I prepare for the test?
- » Will the test be painful or uncomfortable?
- » Is there any risk involved in the test?
- » What happens if the screening test comes back positive?
- » When should I stop screening?
- » How and when will I get my results?

*Not all tests may be available. Talk with your health care provider about which tests are available to you.

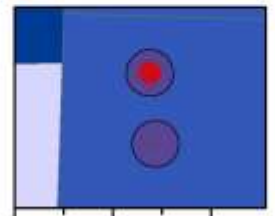
Population Age-Eligible for Colorectal Cancer Screening, by Census Tract, and Location of Facilities for Colonoscopy, North Dakota, 2016



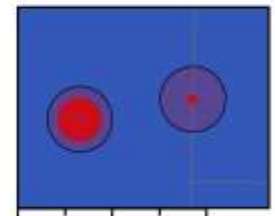
1 Williston



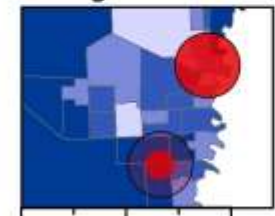
2 Dickinson



3 Bismarck



4 Fargo



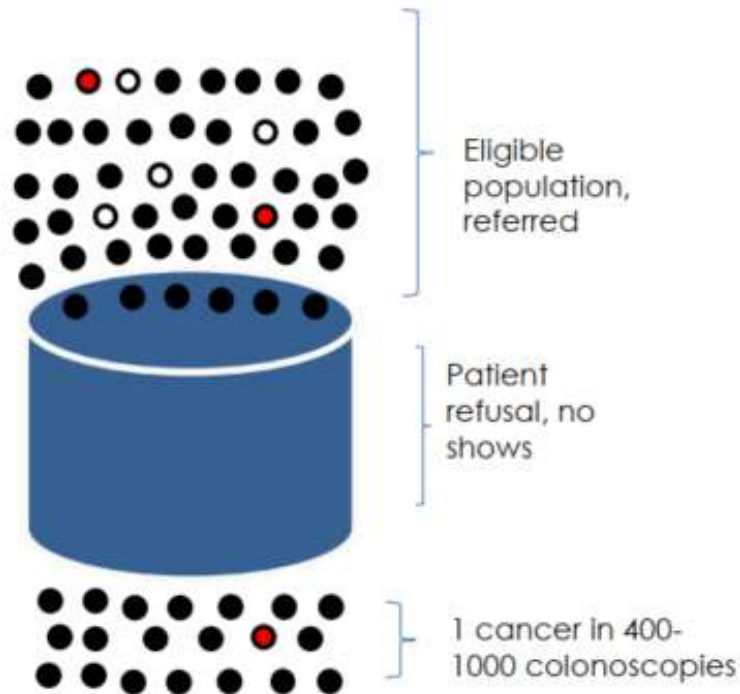
Source: 2011–2015 American Community Survey 5-year estimates (1)

Vu MH, Tran JL. Visualizing colonoscopy capacity for public health use. *Prev Chronic Dis* 2018;15:170421.

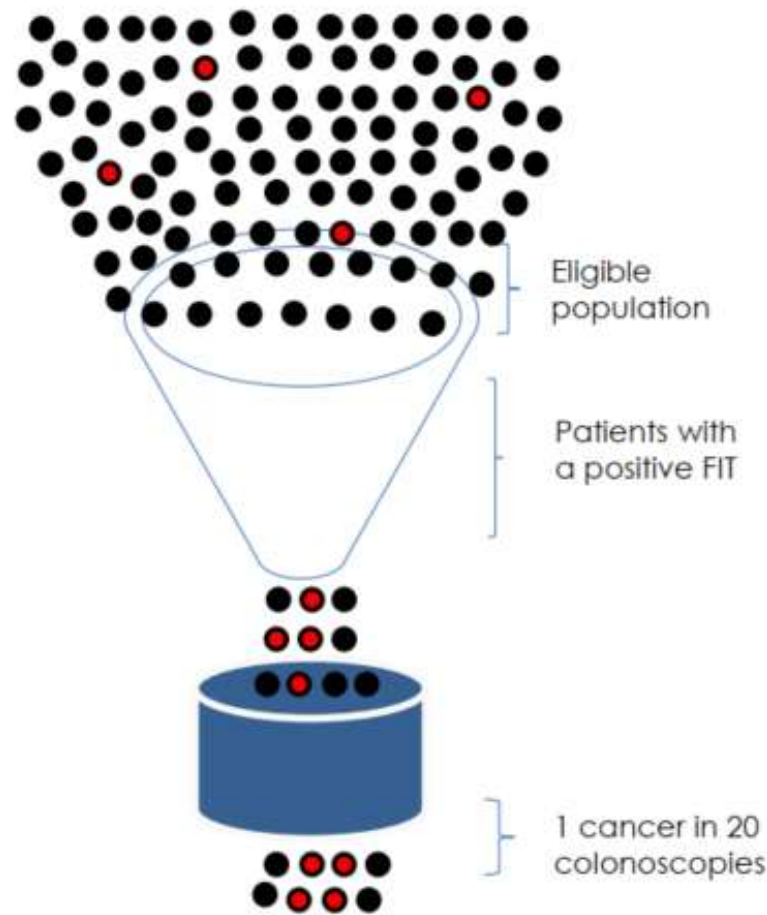
Making the Best Use of Scarce Resources: Screening colonoscopy vs. FIT

- Represents 20 patients

Screening colonoscopy (refer 1,000 patients)



FIT testing (2,000 patients)

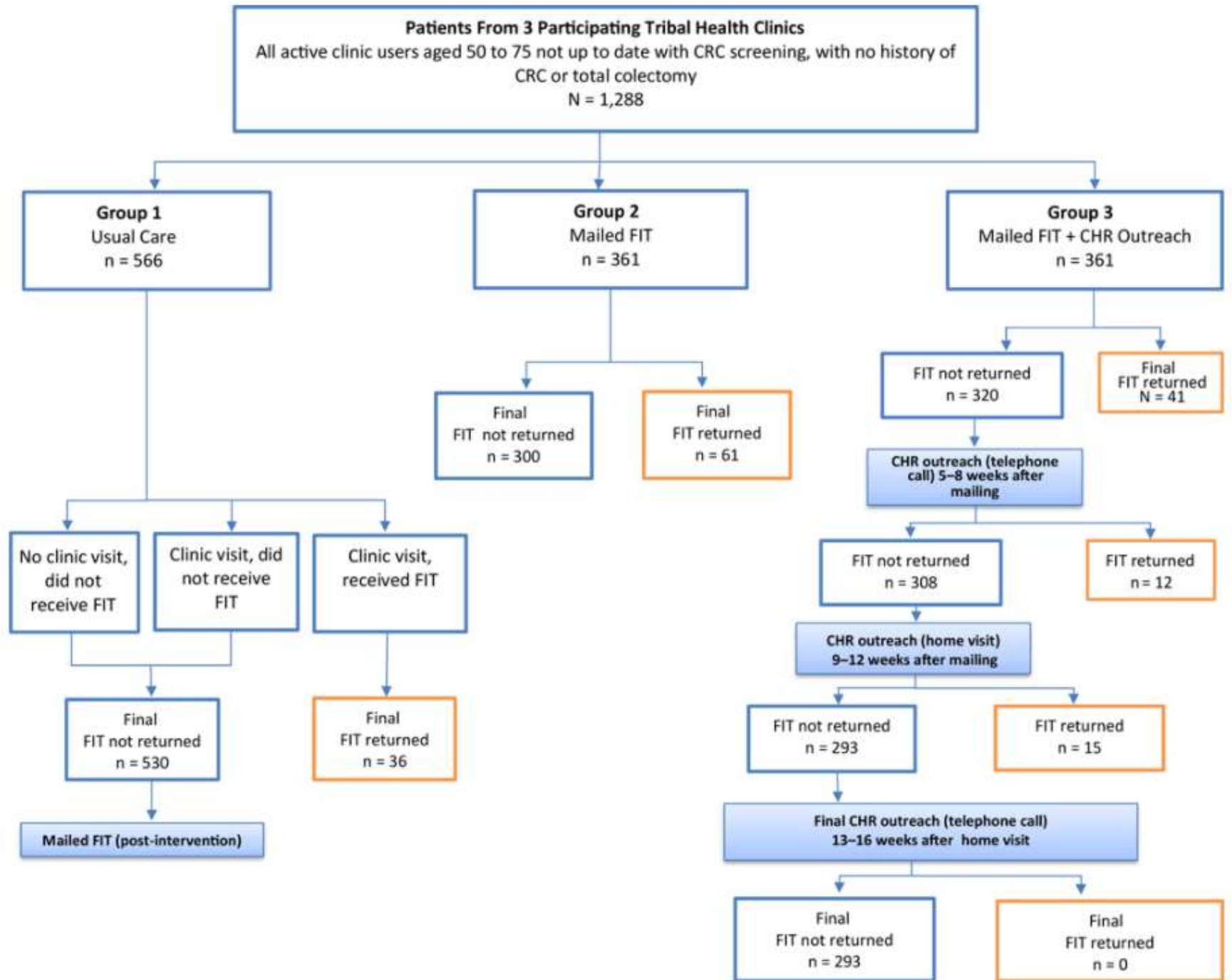


Stool tests
appropriate only
for average risk
clients

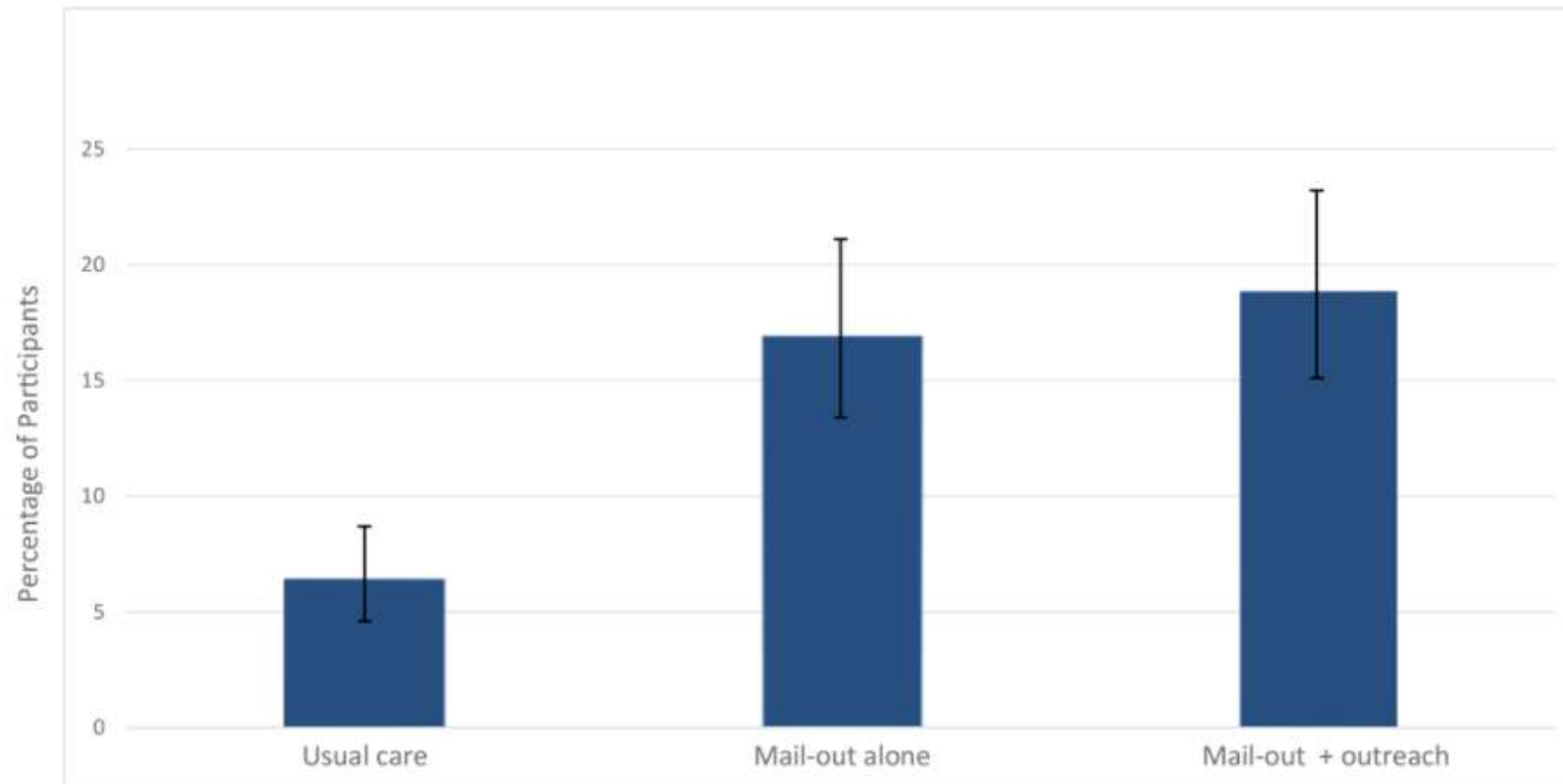
All positive tests
must be followed
up with
colonoscopy

Effectiveness of Interventions to Increase Colorectal Cancer Screening Among American Indians and Alaska Natives (July 16, 2020):

https://www.cdc.gov/pcd/issues/2020/20_0049



Percentage of Participants Who Completed the FIT Test, By Intervention Group




Minute on FluFIT

- Goal: Increase colorectal cancer screening rates by offering home gFOBT or FIT to eligible patients during annual flu shot activities
- Core Functional Component: Standing orders allow non-physician clinic staff to offer flu shots and gFOBT/FIT together to any clinic patient 50-75 years of age seen during flu shot season
- Target Clinical Settings and populations: Community health centers, pharmacies, managed care organizations, healthcare settings
- ACS: FluFIT Implementation Guide:
<https://www.cancer.org/content/dam/cancer-org/cancer-control/en/reports/american-cancer-society-flufobt-program-implementation-guide-for-primary-care-practices.pdf>

Announcement! Milestones Incentive

Copper: (\$1000)

- Standing Rock SU
- Quentin Burdick MHCf

COPPER		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Signed commitment letter <input type="checkbox"/> Formed multidisciplinary innovation team <input type="checkbox"/> Completed Clinic Readiness Assessment <input type="checkbox"/> Completed introductory meeting <input type="checkbox"/> Set goal for year 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Submitted baseline data
BRONZE		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Data submission is current <input type="checkbox"/> Developed and submitted Action Plan and initiated two (2) evidence-based interventions <input type="checkbox"/> Submitted current clinic policy for CRC Screening
SILVER		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Team members participate in scheduled coaching calls and rapid action collaborative <input type="checkbox"/> Implemented at least two (2) evidence-based interventions specific to improving CRC screening rates <input type="checkbox"/> Achieved 1st year goal for improving CRC screening rate <input type="checkbox"/> Shared SCREEND performance with Clinic Board or Leadership
GOLD		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Reviewed and updated Action Plan annually <input type="checkbox"/> Submitted at least one success story or lesson learned related to the interventions selected <input type="checkbox"/> Achieved 2nd year goal for improving CRC Screening rate <input type="checkbox"/> Distributed clinician level data to medical staff
PLATINUM		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Achieved 3rd year goal for improving CRC Screening rate <input type="checkbox"/> Used EHR to fullest potential to sustain EBIs such as flagging for follow-up, tracking screening results, pulling reports, generating and sending reminders to both providers and patients

Resources for the Journey Ahead

Resources

- Effectiveness of Interventions to Increase Colorectal Cancer Screening Among American Indians and Alaska Natives
- ACS: FluFIT Implementation Guide
- Colorectal Cancer Screening: Which test is right for you? (Decision aid)
- [ScreenND.org](https://www.screennd.org)

Next Steps

- TA Calls
- Evaluation (required for CEUs):
[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ScreenND Module 3 040821](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ScreenND%20Module%203%20040821)

**Next collaborative call: 04/22/2021,
9:30 a.m. CT | Topic: Patient Navigation**

ScreenND Contact Information

Nikki Medalen, MS, BSN

Quality Improvement Specialist

nmedalen@qualityhealthnd.org | 701-989-6236

Natasha Green, MBA, RN

Quality Improvement Specialist

ngreen@qualityhealthnd.org | 701-989-6226

Jonathan Gardner

Network Administrator/Data Analyst

jgardner@qualityhealthnd.org | 701-989-6237

