

COLORECTAL CANCER: *You Can Prevent It*

PHYSICIANS FROM THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF GASTROENTEROLOGY want you to know that screening Colonoscopy can find growths in the colon called polyps so they can be removed before they turn into Colorectal Cancer.

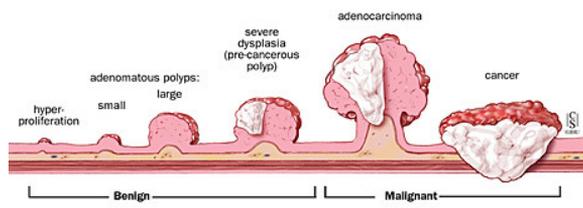
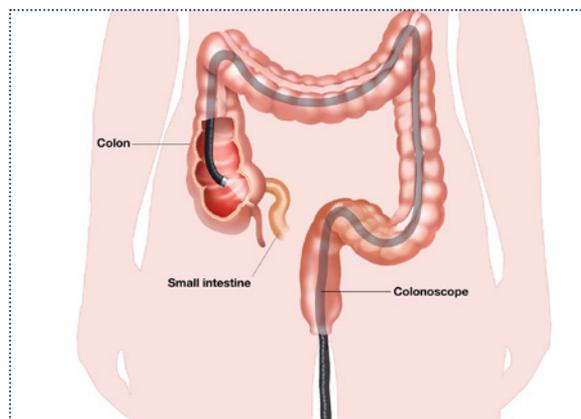


Figure 1. Progression from colorectal polyp to cancer. Not all polyps become cancer, but all cancer starts in a polyp. Image credit: Thrumurthy et al., BMJ, 2016



About COLON POLYPS

- A polyp is a small clump of cells on the lining of the colon. Most colon polyps are harmless. Some colon polyps can develop into colorectal cancer, often fatal when found in its later stages.
- Not all polyps turn into cancer, but all cancers start as polyps.
- Because colon polyps do not usually cause symptoms, it is important to have regular colorectal screenings such as colonoscopy.
- Remember: screening by colonoscopy with polyp removal prevents Colorectal Cancer before it can start.

Recommendation for COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING

AGE 45 to 75 Adults at **average risk** for Colorectal Cancer should get screened



Learn About Your Screening Options for Colorectal Cancer: gi.org/coloncancer



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