

March is National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

Colon cancer is a leading cause of cancer-related death. Yet most colon cancers and deaths from the disease may be prevented by screening for colon polyps.

Early detection is key to survival. Talk to your doctor about when you should start screening

Conventional colonoscopy and computed tomography (CT) colonography (virtual colonoscopy) are two of the primary colon cancer screening methods currently available. CT colonography is less invasive than colonoscopy. The exam uses a CT scanner, takes just a few minutes and does not require intravenous sedation. Talk to your doctor about when you should begin screening and which screening test is best for you.

Remember—doctors can help prevent colon cancer by removing small, benign (<http://www.radiologyinfo.org>) polyps (<http://www.radiologyinfo.org>) before they become malignant (<http://www.radiologyinfo.org>). Colon cancer is highly treatable if detected early so schedule your screening today.

For more information on colon cancer and screening tests, please see the following pages:

- Colon Cancer Screening Resources (<https://www.acr.org/Clinical-Resources/Clinical-Tools-and-Reference/Screening-Resources/colon-cancer-resources>)
- Colorectal Cancer Screening (<https://www.radiologyinfo.org/en/info/screening-colorectal>)
- CT Colonography (Virtual Colonoscopy) (https://www.radiologyinfo.org/en/info/ct_colo)
- Lower GI X-ray (Barium Enema) (<https://www.radiologyinfo.org/en/info/lowergi>)
- Colorectal Cancer Treatment (<https://www.radiologyinfo.org/en/info/colorect>)

Disclaimer

This information is copied from the RadiologyInfo Web site (<http://www.radiologyinfo.org>) which is dedicated to providing the highest quality information. To ensure that, each section is reviewed by a physician with expertise in the area presented. All information contained in the Web site is further reviewed by an ACR (American College of Radiology) - RSNA (Radiological Society of North America) committee, comprising physicians with expertise in several radiologic areas.

However, it is not possible to assure that this Web site contains complete, up-to-date information on any particular subject. Therefore, ACR and RSNA make no representations or warranties about the suitability of this information for use for any particular purpose. All information is provided "as is" without express or implied warranty.

Please visit the RadiologyInfo Web site at <http://www.radiologyinfo.org> to view or download the latest information.

Note: Images may be shown for illustrative purposes. Do not attempt to draw conclusions or make diagnoses by comparing these images to other medical images, particularly your own. Only qualified physicians should interpret images; the radiologist is the physician expert trained in medical imaging.

Copyright

This material is copyrighted by either the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA), 820 Jorie Boulevard, Oak Brook, IL 60523-2251 or the American College of Radiology (ACR), 1891 Preston White Drive, Reston, VA 20191-4397. Commercial reproduction or multiple distribution by any traditional or electronically based reproduction/publication method is prohibited.

Copyright © 2026 Radiological Society of North America, Inc.