Optum

Colon cancer screening

Save time and money with convenient at-home screening



Why are screenings important?

Only 4 in 10 people find out they have colon cancer in the early stages, due to a lack of noticeable symptoms.[1,2] That's why getting screened starting at age 45 is so important.[3]

Early detection could prevent more than 90% of colorectal cancer deaths.[4] In the eligible employer-based population (ages 45–65), only 48% of employees are up to date with the recommended colorectal cancer screening.[5]

At-home screening that makes a difference

A fecal immunochemical test (FIT) is a non-invasive screening that looks for hidden blood in the stool, which can be a sign of cancerous or precancerous growths in the colon or rectum. Its cost-effectiveness is clear when used as an initial screening option in lieu of more invasive procedures. FIT is recommended for people at average risk for colorectal cancer, and it can provide early detection when it comes to the screening for, and prevention of, colorectal cancer within your population.[6]

The self-administered collection is a convenient, in-home screening option with no food or preparation requirements, and it's ideal for filling the gaps in care in your population. Results are available online. If a positive result is found, employees are encouraged to consult with their health care provider.

Colon cancer has the **second-highest cost** of any cancer in the U.S.[7]

Colon cancer is the **leading cause** of cancer death in men under 50 and the **second highest** in women under 50.[7]

How it works

1. FIT kit mailed to individual
2. Individual collects sample at home and mails completed kit back to vendor
3. Vendor performs and interprets test
4. Results are available online

Optum, in partnership with the vendor, manages the entire process from beginning to end

1. Program planning

- Contracting
- Account management
- Eligibility processing
- Program communications

2. Program implementation

- Kit mailing
- Reminder program
- Physician oversight
- Lab-based testing

3. Post program

- Data integration
- Client-level aggregate reporting

Achieve higher engagement with these key differentiators

- Non-invasive methodology
- No special diet or preparation required

To learn more, contact your Optum representative.

1. U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. Colorectal cancer: Screening. May 18, 2021.
2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Symptoms of colorectal cancer. June 12, 2024.
3. CDC. Colorectal cancer risk factors. June 12, 2024.
4. Chung DC, Gray DM, Singh H, et al. A cell-free DNA blood-based test for colorectal cancer screening. *N Engl J Med*. 2024;390(11):973-983.
5. Islami F, Baeker J, Lee H, et al. American Cancer Society's report on the status of cancer disparities in the United States, 2023. *CA Cancer J Clin*. 2023;74(2):136-166.
6. CDC. Screening for colorectal cancer. October 17, 2024.
7. CDC. Health and economic benefits of colorectal cancer interventions. July 11, 2024.

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